

Election fever takes fire out of union attack on Labour's pay policy

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Rothessy

General election fever yesterday overtook the Labour movement's policy on free collective bargaining as militant Scottish trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet.

In the face of mounting political pressure, miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospects of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party plan for an annual "national economic assessment".

The Scottish TUC conference will still go on record tomorrow with a declaration of opposition to wage restraint, but by then delegates will have voted unqualified support for the new political accord, *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

Moderate leaders of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU) yesterday persuaded the STUC General Council to take over their motion committing Scotland's one million trade unionists to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in the joint document.

Mr David Gambatt, general secretary of GMBATU and

chairman of the TUC economic committee, argued: "Unity has never been more essential".

Partners in Rebuilding Britain envisages a government-supported extension of collective bargaining which would involve acceptance of a policy on incomes. Mrs Helen Laidlaw, secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, insisted that the new deal would give the unions enormous power of a kind they had not enjoyed before.

It would give them a say in the allocation of resources within their enterprise, but she gave a warning: "It gives power with responsibility. You cannot accept the rights that power will give you and deny the responsibility".

Delegates are expected to endorse unanimously the emergency motion being discussed today, which welcomes and fully supports Labour's *Programme for Britain* adopted by the General Council of the TUC and the Labour Party National Executive last month and committing delegates to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

New deal or no deal? page 12



Flying back to the past

Fifty years ago today two Westland biplanes flew over Mount Everest for the first time.

The photographs taken then and published in *The Times* helped British climbers in their conquest of the mountain two decades later.

One of those is reproduced above, showing the Houston Westland flying towards Everest, approaching Lohsta, at 32,000ft.

Now two British pilots are preparing to repeat the 1933 flight. Mr George Almond (right, standing) will fly to Nepal next week

to obtain the necessary permissions for the flight, and Mr John Jordan (in the aircraft) will test the Boeing Stearman biplane over Bedfordshire.

Mr Jordan will particularly check supercharger oxygen equipment required to push the aircraft to 30,000ft.

This year's journey, planned for the next few months, will also be photographed and shown of the 1933 aircraft will be invited to fly in the camera aircraft and follow in their fathers' footsteps.



Science report

Aphids flee from wild, hairy potato

By the Staff of Nature

A wild, hairy potato has been found to stare off aphids (such as greenfly) by mimicking the alarm signal that is given out by a dying aphid to warn its neighbour. The alarm, an airborne chemical or pheromone, causes the aphids to drop off the plant, so protecting from diseases transmitted by the pests.

This is believed to be the first time that a crop plant has been found to use the alarm signals of its pests to protect itself against disease.

The hairy potato, *Solanum bertholletii*, has been known for several years to be resistant to insect pests such as the Colorado potato beetle, aphids, thrips and mites. The resistance was thought to be caused by the fact that the hairs which cover the surface of the potato plant act as a barrier to the pests, preventing them from attacking the leaves.

Attempts at cross-breeding have produced cultivated potatoes with hairy leaves which give them physical defence against pests. Further investigation has shown, however, that there is more to the hairy leaves than meets the eye.

There are two types of hairs on the leaf surface, short, lobed hairs ("Type A" hairs) which, when touched to produce a quick-setting fluid that traps the insect, and long, sticky hairs ("Type B" hairs) which entangle the insect and encourage it to burst more Type A hairs.

Plant breeders, however, noticed that potatoes with both types of hair were more resistant to aphid attack than those with just Type A hairs, and that potatoes with the same proportions of A and B hairs had different resistances to aphid infestation. So the old idea that the hairs put up simply a physical barrier against attack was rejected. It seemed that the plant must also be using some kind of chemical defence system.

Thinking that the plants might be giving out some kind of toxic chemical, similar to that produced by wild tomatoes or tobacco plants, Dr. Gibson and Dr. Pickett, of the Rothamsted Experimental Station in Hertfordshire, analysed the leaves of the wild potato.

Surprisingly they found that the leaves contained substantial amounts of the chemical (E)-B-farnesene, which is the alarm signal of several species of aphid, including most of those which transmit viruses to potatoes. They found that this pheromone was produced by the sticky B hairs, and that sufficient amounts of the chemical were present above the surface of the leaf to trick the aphids into believing that the leaf was a danger site.

Dr. Gibson observed that, whereas aphids are normally attracted by the yellowish green colour of the leaves, they would keep between 1 and 3 mm from the edge of an *S. bertholletii* leaf, walking along its length "as if in two minds about climbing on to it".

Dr. Gibson hopes that a potato plant will soon be available for cultivation that is chemically resistant to aphids. The insects should be discouraged from landing on the crop by the warning signals emitted by the leaf and therefore, provided the stock is initially free from diseases, the incidence of aphid-transmitted diseases should be eliminated or substantially reduced.

Sources: Nature April 14 (vol 302, p 608) 1983.
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Firemen threaten to strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The likelihood of a series of one-day lightning strikes next week by Britain's 30,000 firemen depends on a government statement which is expected within the next few days on whether ministers are determined to make public service workers pay more for their pensions.

Firemen, with the police, have been told that from the beginning of next month their contribution to index-linked pensions will be increased by 4 per cent. Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) met some Home Office officials yesterday to warn them that unless the Government backed down the strikes would then go ahead.

A report of the meeting was given to Mr William Whitelaw, or the FBU, which is due to hold a delegate conference next Tuesday to decide whether to back the union executive's call for a strike.

Regional voting indicates that there will be overwhelming support at the conference for strikes unless there is a change in the situation.

The union has said that if the Government persists with its proposals to increase the pension contributions there will be three days of strikes next month, with a further 2 per cent of one-day stoppages, again without notice and without emergency cover.

The Home Office said yesterday that the firemen's 6.75 per cent contribution toward their pensions has not been increased for 10 years.

Whitelaw dashes hope on prisons

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Separate deputations of MPs and prison governors who complained yesterday to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, about "appalling" conditions in which men are being kept in police cells instead of prison came away disappointed.

Mr Brendan O'Riel, Chairman of the prison and borstal governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said: "We are extremely concerned that there is no new initiative to deal with the scandalous use of police cells."

The all-party Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group also concluded Mr Whitelaw had no new initiatives immediately to cut the prison population to make room for men held elsewhere.

The Prison Department said yesterday that 260 people were now being held in cells, bringing the total prison population to 44,505. Mr Whitelaw was also pressed to act to cut the prison population by a deputation from the all-party Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Osnestry and chairman of the group, said that on visit to police cells, a senior police officer had told him: "You shouldn't keep a dog in these conditions." Mr Kilroy-Silk said of the visit to the cells: "We were absolutely outraged."

The deputation included Mr Sam Silkin, Labour MP for Dulwich and former Attorney General, Mr George Cunningham, SDP MP for Islington South and Finsbury, Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea South, and Lord Avebury.

Mr O'Riel said after seeing Mr Whitelaw: "He felt that the use of executive release would have to be used in the case of a real emergency. While we regard the use of police cells as a dire emergency, I don't think he sees it in those terms. We have in effect put up a 'house full' notice."

Mr Whitelaw, however, indicated he was prepared to go on fighting for more staff and buildings. The governors reminded him that two of their members had been taken hostage this year, each held at a different point on the east coast in January, and the other at Wormwood Scrubs in March.

While Mr Whitelaw claimed later to the all-party group that he had been ruled out of the use of executive release to deal with the prison crisis he left governors with the impression that it was not his immediate intention to employ it.

Disabled couple can keep child

From Arthur Osman, Lincoln

A severely handicapped couple yesterday won a legal battle to keep their son, aged four and a half months, who had been made a ward of court on the application of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Mr Justice Hollings, sitting at Lincoln, ruled that the baby should be brought up in the care of his parents, who would be supervised by the county's social services department. The child would remain in wardship to prevent any disclosure of identity.

The mother, aged 30, has congenital club feet, and father aged 34, is confined to a wheelchair with cerebral palsy. They have a joint income of £288 a week from allowances.

The mother said they had taken "extraordinary precautions" to try to ensure their child would be normal, which he was.

They had married in 1981, and lived in a supervised local authority complex in Nottingham.

When they decided they wanted a child, they first went to a geneticist, who after tests assured them that the risk of having a handicapped child was no worse than for anyone else.

She was then examined by a leading obstetrician and they had 70 hours of counselling by a psychiatrist social worker.

It had been a difficult birth, and after returning to their flat she suffered post-natal depression and did have difficulty in coping. She returned to hospital and four days before Christmas a High Court writ was served on them, seeking to make the baby a ward.

The husband said a social worker had told him the baby would be taken away "In your and the baby's best interests."

The husband said yesterday: "There was great resistance to us courting and to our marriage. We are independent people and that is why we fought so hard for our son."

Mr Edward Culham, Nottinghamshire County Council's director of social services, said last night that his authority's actions in making the baby a ward of court had been fully vindicated by the comments of the judge.

Labour fears split as Duffy attacks policies

From Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter, Eastbourne

Evidence of a serious split in Labour movement over disarmament and Common farm policies emerged yesterday during Mr Terence Duffy's residential speech to the amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Mr Duffy, who is on the right-wing of the party, attacked Labour's policy on unilateralism and withdrawal from Europe, two of the key issues on which it hopes to attract electoral support, his speech is highly embarrassing to Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader who is to address the conference tomorrow and is submitted to supporting both sides.

Mr Duffy's remarks on defence were seen as particularly unfortunate by Labour Party supporters attempting to promote unity. The Conservatives, in apparent preparation for an early election, are to make the Labour Party's policy of "one-sided" disarmament one of the central issues of the next general election.

Mr Duffy told the conference that Britain should contribute to Nato both in terms of conventional and nuclear weapons. "Unilateralism by Britain would weaken Nato and lessen the chances of lasting peace."

On the Common Market he said that trade unionists in European countries did not wish Britain to withdraw.

In spite of his attack on the two crucial Labour Party policies, Mr Duffy said that he would be campaigning for a Labour victory.

However, there is no indication that the executive will agree with Mr Duffy's stance in spite of a 33 to 19 right-wing majority.

Tatchell bows out of battle

By Richard Evans, Bermondsey Labour Party, in South London, will this week start the search for a new prospective parliamentary candidate after the decision by Mr Peter Tatchell not to reapply for the job.

Mr Tatchell has reluctantly bowed to pressure within the local party not to put himself forward after the controversial Southwark, Bermondsey, by-election in February, when he was defeated overwhelmingly by Mr Simon Hughes, the Alliance's Liberal candidate.

The seat had been held by Labour for more than half a century.

Among the names being floated for the job last night were those of Mr Richard Ballie, Euro-MP for London, South Inner, which includes Bermondsey and Mr George Nicholson, Greater London Council member for Bermondsey.

Mr Tatchell gave in to the "overwhelming view" of the local party that he was not the right person to stand at the general election.

"Local party members have asked me not to stand because too much of the mud thrown during the Bermondsey by-election has stuck. The smears seem impossible to erase in the foreseeable future."

"The Bermondsey party feels that I would be unable to receive a fair and impartial hearing in the popular press if I stood at the general election. They fear a repetition of the anti-homosexual prejudice which was used against me."

Mr Tatchell indicated that he hoped to seek selection as a prospective candidate in a few years' time.

The inaugural meeting of a new Southwark and Bermondsey party, after minor boundary changes to the constituency, is due on Thursday.

IRA informer's wife returns to Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The wife of an alleged IRA supergrass left a secret address to return to her home in Northern Ireland yesterday after being under police guard with her husband for eight months.

Mrs Lorraine Gilmore and her two young children had been in protective custody since her husband gave information leading to the arrest of 71 republicans for terrorist offences.

She arrived at her parents' home in Londonderry yesterday morning, but Mr Raymond Gilmore, aged 23, is still in protective custody while awaiting the trial at which he will give evidence for the Crown.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said Mrs Gilmore had returned home at her own request after a recent meeting with her mother. Her return to the province will be a blow to the RUC, because it will increase the enormous IRA pressure on her husband to retract his statements. Masked men kidnapped his father, Mr Patrick Gilmore, aged 61, from his home in Londonderry last November and they are understood to be holding him in Donegal. They have threatened to kill him unless his son retracts his evidence.

According to *Republican News*, Mr Gilmore got in touch with his family in the middle of March, convincing his mother-

in-law that he wished to retract the statements he had made. On the same evening he apparently spoke to three of his sisters, and made further telephone calls.

On the final date Mr Gilmore allegedly spoke to Mr Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein assemblyman for Londonderry. The newspaper added: "Sinn Fein welcomes this development and assure the family and Lorraine Gilmore of their full support."

Mrs Gilmore said last night that she did not know whether her husband was being held against his will.

Mr McGuinness, who was with her, said that Mrs Gilmore's parents were taken to England on April 7, when they met their daughter. A number of telephone calls followed, which resulted in Mrs Gilmore's decision to return home.

Mr and Mrs Gilmore disappeared from their home on the Creggan Estate in Londonderry, last August after telling friends they were going on a caravan holiday to Buncrana, Co. Donegal. Several days later, as a series of police swoops took place in republican areas of the city, a removal van guarded by the security forces took all the furnishings and contents from their flat on the estate.

The couple were first taken to Ipswich but were moved to a five-star hotel in Limassol, Cyprus, when Mr Gilmore's father was kidnapped.

MEP's visa withdrawn by Russia

By George Clark

In what is seen as a tit-for-tat move in the dispute over alleged diplomatic spying, Lord Bethell, the Conservative MEP for London, North West, had his visa withdrawn yesterday for a visit to the Soviet Union which he had intended to make at the end of this week.

It was his intention to meet Soviet officials as well as the relatives and friends of people imprisoned for their political opposition to the regime, in advance of a debate in the European Parliament which he is to initiate.

He has prepared a report for the European Parliament seeking its backing for a resolution which condemns the "systematic violation" of human rights in Russia on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee.

Last week in Strasbourg he asked for the debate to be adjourned until a later session in view of the Soviet Union's decision to grant him a visa and in the hope that by showing a willingness to talk to Soviet officials he might be able to persuade them to adopt a new line with dissidents.

He intended to impress on them the great pressure from all countries in the Community of the Soviet Union to show some sign of a wish to fulfil the Helsinki agreement.

Lord Bethell said yesterday: "The Soviet Embassy called me this morning and asked me to return my visa. When I refused to promise to do so, they said they would not allow the aircraft to land in Moscow unless they received a guarantee that I was not on it."

"The next thing I knew was that Thomson Tours had cancelled my air ticket."

"My draft report is highly critical of the Soviet Union's record on human rights, but it seemed to me fair and just to give the Soviet authorities a chance to discuss it with me before I presented my conclusions to the European Parliament."

After the withdrawal of the visa, Lord Bethell said: "I do not think we should tolerate any visits from members of the Supreme Soviet to this country as long as this situation remains unresolved."

Members of the Supreme Soviet came to the United Kingdom frequently on an inter-parliamentary basis, and such visits should be stopped.

Ministries criticized

Mr Gordon Downey, the ombudsman and Auditor General, has criticized three government departments for failing to meet their own standards of control over nationalized industries (our Political Correspondent writes).

A report, which will provide a framework for a Commons public accounts investigation, complains of substantial deficiencies in information provided by the National Coal Board, British Telecommunications and the British Railways Board.

Mr Downey said that Department of Energy officials had repeatedly recorded that the formation in coal board corporate plans had been inadequate to assess the plans ability, but efforts to improve the situation were "slow to bear fruit".

The coal board had also

cial returns within agreed periods and Mr Downey noted that although the department continued to press for the prompt production of these returns, it considered legal sanctions to reinforce the pressure inappropriate.

On the Department of Industry's control of British Telecomunications, Mr Downey said: "It appeared to me that the department had little detailed knowledge of the economic modelling method used by BT to prepare the medium-term plans and that its ability to assess its soundness was therefore impaired."

Mr Downey also said that the British Railways Board plan for 1981-85 had failed to show the build-up of revenue costs and income projections and although it had referred to consideration of other strategies, they had not been given.

Youth 'put woman's body on railway line'

Mrs Katia Hopkins, aged 36, was murdered on her way home to a midnight rendezvous with a man, Reading Crown Court was told yesterday (Our Reading Correspondent writes).

Counsel said that Mrs Hopkins, an attractive woman, had left her husband at home and was walking to meet Johannes Phaff, a veterinary surgeon, when the killer struck. She was tripped, strangled and sexually attacked before being dumped on a railway line.

Alan Pinkerton, aged 19, a factory worker of Dutton Way, Iwer, Buckinghamshire, pleaded not guilty of murdering Mrs Hopkins last October.

Mr John Morris, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mrs Hopkins was attacked near Iwer railway station.

Mr Morris said that when Mr Pinkerton was seen by detectives he said he had taken drugs and had been drinking that night, and when he fell sick had taken his girlfriend home.

The trial continues today.

Mrs Katia Hopkins: "Went to meet a man"

An historic curiosity brings top price

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Rooms Correspondent

The last sale of oriental manuscripts and miniatures from the collection formed by Mr Hagop Kevorkian, an Armenian dealer and collector who lived in New York brought £199,578 at Sotheby's yesterday, with only 1 per cent left unsold.

It has taken 16 years and 12 sales to disperse the collection, the largest and most comprehensive ever assembled in this field. It has realized nearly £4m.

The top price, £37,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) was paid for a historic curiosity of academic rather than visual interest. It was the manuscript index to the works of Rashid Al-Din, the great fourteenth-century historian, statesman and physician.

It comprises 179 leaves written by various Persian scribes in naskh script and dated 1307-16. It comes from the famous scriptorium established by Rashid Al-Din in Tabriz, which was plundered and burnt after Al-Din's execution in 1318, most of the manuscripts thus being lost.

One other manuscript text of the index survives, written in Arabic, in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris.

Pieces were in general or above estimates, with Qur'an fragments again keenly sought after. Despite imperfections at the beginning and end, an illuminated Mamluk Qur'an of about 1370, once a very grand manuscript, made £24,200 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000).

Two drama prizes for Cambridge

Cambridge University Mummer won two of the top awards in *The Sunday Times* National Student Drama Festival at Wakefield (Christophers Warren writes).

Peter Jukes won the RSC's Buzz Goodbody student director award for his direction of the company in *In the Shadow of the Glen* by J. M. Synge, and Joanna Scanlan took the BP best actress award.

Ray Mawby to retire

Mr Ray Mawby, aged 61 Conservative MP for the Devon seat of Totnes for the past 28 years, announced last night that "with reluctance" he will retire from Parliament at the next general election.

He has failed to be selected as prospective candidate for the two new constituencies of Teignbridge and South Hams.

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Chemist to be top defence scientist

By Peter Hennessy

Professor Richard Norman, an organic chemist from York University, is to be the next chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence. He succeeds Professor Sir Ronald Mason, who returned to Sussex University earlier this year.

The appointment will be announced at the end of the month after positive vetting inquiries are completed and security clearance has been granted.

Professor Norman, aged 50, is expected to take up his appointment full-time in September, after a period of working in the ministry part-time while completing his duties at York. He has no previous Whitehall experience.

The job of chief scientist at the ministry is normally held for five years.

Sale room

An historic curiosity brings top price

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House buying surges to 1980 levels as prices rise by 5%

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

There has been a spring surge in house prices throughout London, the South-east, the South-west, and parts of the North and the Midlands, according to the latest residential market survey.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' monthly report on house prices, published today, shows that two-thirds of all estate agents taking part in the survey indicated rises of between 2 and 5 per cent and one in seven say that the cost of houses has increased by more than 5 per cent.

Homes in Greater London and the Home Counties are showing the largest rises, according to the report. An agent in Edmonton, north London, comments that over the last two months property prices have risen by between 5 and 8 per cent.

In Orpington, Kent, lower priced homes are selling for as much as 8 per cent more than at the beginning of the year.

However, it is not only the more affluent Home Counties that are witnessing the upsurge in house prices. In the depressed West Midlands agents are reporting that the market is more buoyant than for the past two or three years, with shortages of all types of property.

For the first time since the autumn of 1979 the Institution says that less than a third of its participating members are reporting no price changes during the last quarter.

A burst of house hunting during March has meant that houses across the country which had been languishing on estate agents' books for up to a year have now come under offer.

In the East Midlands a Hinckley firm commented that several houses which had been on the market for a year or more had been sold.

Demand is generally strongest for pre-1919 terraced houses which are usually sought by first-time buyers.

However, new property estate agents as far apart as Yorkshire and East Anglia are reporting faster sales in the more expensive categories. Agents in York are saying that homes at more than £75,000 are selling well and the same is being reported in Newmarket.

An agent in Barnes, south-west London, commented in the survey that demand for houses in the £100,000 to £150,000 range is not being satisfied because of an acute shortage.

However, in spite of this buoyant market agents are expressing concern over a shortage of mortgage finance. Mortgage queues are reported even in parts of the North, where demand is not at its strongest, and in Newcastle, Washington, and in the East Midlands.

Areas of highest demand, such as London and the South-east, have lists for loans. In London, for example, a prospective purchaser can expect to wait three or four months for a mortgage.

Mr John Thomas, the Institution's housing market spokesman, commented: "The burst of activity in Budget month was to be expected, but contrary to some recent headlines, no agents have reported gazzumping by sellers."



Mr Christopher Hughes outside his home in Ponders End, north London (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Driver aims for Mastermind title

By David Hewson

Mr Christopher Hughes, aged 35, a London Tube driver, will know tonight whether he is the BBC's new *Mastermind*.

But like the other three finalists and the audience, he will be sworn to secrecy about the result, which will be revealed only with the final's transmission on May 8.

Mr Hughes has established himself as the leading authority on the exploits of Mr Harry Flashman, the Victorian military hero, sportsman and cad.

His television performance on Sunday night, in which he answered correctly 18 questions about Flashman's ex-

claimed, though scurrilous life, astonished Mr George MacDonald Fraser, the author, who is normally regarded as the leading expert on the character of the wholly understandable ground that Flashman's deeds are his creation.

"I thought he was marvellous", Mr Fraser said from his home in the Isle of Man. "He got two more answers than I did. I could not remember the name of a woman in the Indian Mutiny and I wrongly anticipated a question about Palmerston meeting Flashman."

"If I had had the time, I would have been right on both,

but he started me because of the way he went through it."

In fact, the seven Flashman novels, in which real historical detail is cunningly intermingled with the cowardly machinations of a character first seen as the form bully in *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, were Mr Hughes' second choice as a specialist subject.

After winning his first heat on British Steam Locomotives 1900 to 1968, a subject to which he will return tonight, he wanted to opt for questions on C. S. Forester's Hornblower books in the semi-final, only to find that they had been selected by another contestant.

At Christmas Mr Hughes

decided to take the Flashman books instead, and set about rereading them.

Yesterday morning, unmoved by any nerves at the prospect of tonight's final at the Middle Temple, he clocked on for his morning shift driving a Tube train between Cockfosters and Heathrow, returned home at lunchtime to eat with his mother.

Mr Hughes left school at the age of 15 with four O levels and found a job working with steam engines as a British Rail fireman. When the passing of steam riled out his ambition to become an engine driver, he joined London Transport.

War widows get Labour support for grave visits

By Michael Hasnell

The campaign for government assistance to enable war widows to visit the overseas graves of their husbands received a boost yesterday when Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, said he will press in the House of Commons for the Government to provide facility visits to the graves.

His scheme envisages a start with those widowed in 1914 and allows for a steady progression through the ranks of those who lost servicemen husbands until 1967, when the Government introduced the present policy of providing facility visits to the graves of men who died after that date.

The proposal coincided with an attack on government statistics which according to Ministry of Defence spokesmen make sponsored visits too expensive to entertain. Although there are 64,000 widows of Servicemen killed in action before 1967, mostly in the Second World War, it is estimated that fewer than 10,000 would want to make such visits. Allowing for £500 a head, which is regarded as a realistic figure, it would mean a cost to the government of no more than £5m.

Mrs Iris Strange, the secretary of British War Widows and Associates, the organization which is leading the campaign for visits, said: "If you take into account those who do not want to go, those who have already paid their last respects and those whose husbands' last resting places are not known, you are left with surprisingly few widows."

"Those who wish to go and cannot afford to do so have in many cases spent a lifetime yearning to go and they must be allowed to before it is too late."

Mr Rees has twice written to Mrs Margaret Thatcher urging government assistance, but she replied that the numbers would be too large and any scheme too difficult and expensive to organize.

Surgeon 'could have simulated suicide'

By David Nicholson-Lord

A surgeon convicted of poisoning his mentally ill wife with a rare anticancer drug could have disposed of her by the much simpler course of writing to the Voluntary Euthanasia Society (formerly Exit), or simulating suicide through an overdose of barbiturates, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Yet Paul Vickers, aged 48, "virtually put his name up in lights" when obtaining prescriptions for the drug CCNU, Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, told the court. There was no attempt to conceal his name or address with a doctor's spidery writing.

"It was virtually a visiting card", Mr Gray added. "He was running the most enormous peril."

Vickers, formerly head of the accident department at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction at Teesside Crown Court in November, 1981, for the murder of his wife. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a recommendation by Mr Justice Boreham, the trial judge, that he serve a minimum of 17 years.

The grounds of appeal include alleged defects in the trial judge's summing up of medical evidence and his directions to the jury on the alternative verdict of manslaughter. There is also an application to call fresh evidence from three *News of the World* reporters who interviewed Miss Pamela Collison, Vickers' co-defendant, after she was acquitted of murder.

Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, was brought from Wakefield prison for yesterday's hearing. Dressed in a dark suit and tie, he betrayed little emotion from the dock, occasionally leaning forward to concentrate on points of evidence.

Mr Gray said there was no medical evidence that CCNU, which is undetectable after death and was used to create in

Closer link for man's two families

Mr John Knight's mistress and their nine children are to be rehoused in the Cornish village where his wife and their 11 children live.

Mrs Claire Martens has accepted the tenancy of two council cottages at Doublebois, near Liskeard, which are to be converted into one house.

Her new home will be 200 yards from the detached house which Mrs Caroline Knight, who is again pregnant, took over just before Christmas.

Caradon and North Cornwall district councils agreed the arrangements after Mr Knight and the women said they did not want to be rehoused miles apart.

Janet Reger reopens shop

The glamorous Janet Reger women's underwear shop reopened in London yesterday, three months after the business collapsed with debts of £1m.

The firm will "concentrate on the upper price level", Miss Reger said at the shop in Beauchamp Place, Knightsbridge, opened with the help of a bank loan and investments by employees, some of whom are working without wages.

£11,000 'closed shop' award

Mr Gordon Phillips, aged 53, who was dismissed after working for 30 years with Clayton-Dewandre, brake manufacturers in Lincoln, when a closed shop was introduced by the unions, received £11,000 in compensation yesterday under the terms of the Employment Act, 1982.

The industrial tribunal which had previously dismissed his case agreed that the employers were "over a barrel" because the closed shop was allowed under law.

Korsa-Acquah remanded

Stephen Korsa-Acquah, aged 20, of no fixed address, was remanded in custody for a week yesterday by Bristol magistrates accused of four bank robberies, attempted murder and kidnapping.

Among the charges are attempting to murder Police Constable Owen Lelen, kidnapping Mr Tony Hatton, a lorry driver, and robbing Lloyds Bank in Bond Street, Bristol.

Threat to girls

London magistrates' courts are being used by men looking for young girls from the provinces who can be lured into prostitution after court appearances, according to Mr Eric Crowther, the magistrate at West London Court, writing in *Justice of the Peace*.

Trader jailed

Robert Hay, aged 43, a street trader, of Matland Park, Hampstead, west London, was jailed for five years in the Central Criminal Court yesterday for conspiring to steal mail from a train. Four others admitted their part in the attempted robbery last week.

Father's appeal

Mr Arnold Atkins, the father of Gillian Atkins, aged 14, who was murdered made a plea yesterday at Bourne, Lincolnshire, police station to the killer, or anyone who knows his identity, to go to the police.

Dead nurse film

Mr Ronald Smith is supporting plans to make a film about the death of his daughter Helen, aged 23, a nurse, who died during an illegal party in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, nearly four years ago.

Hunt man cleared over cat killed by hounds

The whipper-in of the Berkeley Hunt was cleared yesterday of criminal damage and cruelty to a pet cat killed by hounds on a Gloucestershire caravan site.

Magistrates at Whitminster dismissed summonses brought by the owner of the cat, Mrs Dorothy Newman, supported by the League Against Cruel Sports, against Patrick Martin, aged 25, of The Kennels, Berkeley.

The court was told that the hounds mauled the cat to death after they killed a fox they had pursued on to Berkeley Vale Caravan Park on February 27 last year.

Mr Edward Cazalet, defending, said Mr Martin did all he could to stop the pack entering the site and was not aware of the attack on the cat.

The magistrates ordered that the costs of both sides be paid from central funds.

Last December the league persuaded the High Court to overturn the magistrates' original decision not to issue summonses.

Yesterday, Mr Edmund Lawson, for the prosecution, told the court that Mrs Christine Wilcox, who lived on the site, watched the 15-year-old cat, called Badgie, from the hounds, but it died.

Mr Lawson did not suggest Mr Martin intended that the cat should be harmed, but he was "reckless" in allowing the hounds into the caravan park.

Mrs Wilcox, who now lives at Hinton Court, Berkeley, said she saw about six dogs attacking the cat.

"They were playing tag-war with it. I managed to punch one of the dogs on the nose. I grabbed the cat and pulled it away." The cat bit and scratched her as it tried to escape.



Mr Martin "Struck in the face".

24 new companies make it a record month for Wales.

The number of businesses registered in Wales hit an all-time peak in February. A spokesman for the Welsh Development Agency said: "We are delighted to welcome these recent arrivals."

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PARLIAMENT April 18 1983

Politics deprives 'peace' of any charitable status

Chancellor of the Exchequer... After the final decision in the Moonies case it might be necessary to look at the whole position of charity law...

1990 target date for lead-free petrol

POLLUTION

The Government has accepted a recommendation from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that lead additives in petrol should be phased out...

Foreign Secretary attacks Soviet aid policy

BRANDT REPORT

The United Kingdom had been at the forefront of moves to waive debts, not only from least developed countries, as recommended by Brandt...

Increased demand for British steel

There was evidence of increased demand for British steel products. Mr John Butcher, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said during Commons questions...

Thatcher: Recovery under way

The Labour Party had a vested interest in gloom and doom and the Thatcher recovery Britain was now under way...

Insolvency law review

Urgent consideration was being given by the Government to the programme of legislation which would be needed to provide a modern body of insolvency law...

Whitehall brief

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to ask the Government for supplies of its leaflets on cruise, Trident and the nuclear debate...

Hand-wringing world of education

The Department of Education and Science has a peculiar reputation among other Whitehall ministries. Senior officials watch friends posted there to see how soon they succumb to the frustration of fighting the Treasury...

Fire alarm that speaks its warning

The sound of things that whistle, warble and scream in the night echoed across the exhibition hall in London yesterday at the opening of one of the world's largest security exhibitions...

Farming in Britain: 2

Taking the fat with the lean

There is no such person as a typical farmer. Agriculture embraces a wide variety of activities on a scale ranging from multimillion pound enterprises to smallholdings that barely provide a livelihood...

Parliament today

Communes (2.30) Debates on Opposition motions on East Anglia and on shipbuilding and repairing industries (Lords 2.30) Energy Bill, committee. Water Bill, report. Debate on building societies...

Whitehall brief

Mr Robert Cray (Keighly, Lab): What inducement is he going to provide for local authorities to remove lead paint from schools, which is a problem in many authorities, and particularly those with a large number of Victorian schools painted many years with lead paint?

Whitehall brief

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Morgan and P... Socialism... THE TIMES... 1983

Mugabe flays corruption and plans more socialism for Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Zimbabwe entered the fourth year of its independence yesterday with celebrations across the country, military displays and indications that a more rigorous socialist policy will be pursued in the year ahead.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, attended a rally in Harare at which President Canaan Banana, delivering the key address, said the next year of independence threatened to be "probably the most difficult period we Zimbabweans have yet had to face".

Although Zimbabwe remained one of the most peaceful and stable countries in the developing world there had been a spread over the past year of "a cancerous virus... the dissident menace, which poses an intolerable threat to our continued peace and prosperity," the President said.

A scheduled display at the rally by the Fifth Brigade, the unit charged with responsibility for recent massacres in Matabeleland was cancelled and substituted by a demonstration of unarmed combat by the new Presidential Guard.

Mr Mugabe has had little to say over the anniversary week-end about the Matabeleland troubles and has concentrated on economic objectives and problems.

In a speech to the nation on Sunday evening he fore-shadowed a leadership shake-up with a scathing attack on

corruption and what he termed bourgeois tendencies in ministers.

In an apparent reference to the recent dismissal of the Midlands city of Gweru he attacked "unscrupulous" officials for avarice and misappropriation of public funds.

"Even Cabinet ministers, with a more theoretical and thus hypocritical commitment to socialism: have, under one guise or another, proceeded to acquire huge properties by way of farms and other business concerns," he said.

The severity of Mr Mugabe's words appeared to herald a long-anticipated reshuffle in the Cabinet which, with 32 ministers, is unusually large and costly for a country of Zimbabwe's size and resources.

His utterance in the lead-up to the anniversary also point to a more overtly socialist programme in economic policy.

A professed Marxist, Mr Mugabe has followed a pragmatic economic course in the past three years but on Friday announced plans for large-scale nationalisation of industry.

Writing in *Zimbabwe News*, the mouthpiece of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, he said the Government intended to acquire control of the grain milling, fuel procurement and national transport industries and "many other areas falling under the various economic sectors". He gave no details.

That intention may be the ultimate deterrent for foreign investment in Zimbabwe. But as there has been only one substantial infusion of investment since independence Mr Mugabe may have decided he will be losing by proceeding on a course which accords more with his natural inclinations.

Officer drain hits Air Force

The Zimbabwean Air Force has been hit by a spate of resignations as the trial approaches of seven officers facing charges over the sabotage operation which devastated the Air Force last year. Seven group captains and three wing commanders have resigned and will be leaving in the next two months, our foreign staff writes.

A number of lower ranks, including squadron leaders and pilots, are also departing, having opted to take early retirement under the so-called Muzorewa incentive scheme. Drafted in the year before independence, this allows members of the armed forces and civil services to transfer every April a third of their pensions outside Zimbabwe.

Although a similar number of Air Force personnel have resigned in previous years, this is the first time so many top-ranking officers have resigned in one batch.



Papal greeting: The Pope meeting the Armenian Patriarch Karekine II to concelebrate Mass on the outskirts of Rome yesterday.

Korean disco death toll reaches 25

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul

Twenty-five South Koreans died and 67 others were injured, most of them teenagers, when fire swept through a disco club here early yesterday.

Many of the victims were suffocated to death by smoke or poisonous gas while others were crushed in the attempt to escape when fire broke out at the club in Taegu, the third largest city in South Korea.

A witness, who escaped, said that as fire spread through the disco which is on the second floor, the place was plunged into darkness. About 150 people fled from the dance floor and fought to escape down a steep, narrow staircase. One person tripped on the stairs and others behind him fell.

According to first reports, an emergency door was shut with chairs in front of it, apparently to prevent customers leaving without paying their bills.

Police are investigating the cause of the fire, thought to be an electrical short-circuit.

Why exercises took Spain by surprise

By Harry Debellus Madrid

Spain's defence ministry was informed about naval manoeuvres off Gibraltar more than two weeks before "the Falklands fleet" arrived at the Rock, but the foreign ministry did not find out until Gibraltar television reported the fleet's impending arrival on April 8, according to a report yesterday in the monarchist daily ABC.

In an article signed by Alberto Miguez, the newspaper said the British Admiralty informed Spanish and Moroccan naval authorities late last month, and in Spain's case the information was transmitted via the naval attaché at the Spanish Embassy in London.

The lack of coordination between ministries, the article said, resulted in "the British fleet entering Gibraltar to the surprise of the public and in the face of apparent indifference on the part of those who already knew and the confusion of our diplomacy".

The paper also reported that the Gibraltar Assembly was to study measures related to the opening of the frontier with Spain. Among such measures to be considered yesterday, ABC said, was a proposal to impose a tax on Gibraltarians visiting Spain.

In another Madrid daily, *Diario-16*, Señor Fernando Arias Salgado, a diplomat and former Centre Party politician, referred to the tension over Gibraltar and maintained that Spain's foreign affairs activity showed "a growing lack of coordination at the administrative level, with regard both to

the principle of unified action and to public expenditure".

Madrid's Monday morning weekly *Hoja Del Lunes* assured readers in the main story on its front page: "Another new delay in the Spanish-British talks about Gibraltar is about to occur."

● GIBRALTAR: After a five-day operational visit the aircraft carrier *Invincible* and the other warships in the Navy flotilla sailed out to begin the annual Spring Train exercise in Atlantic waters. A submarine led them out, helicopters flew over head and a second submarine brought up the rear.

The Spanish destroyer *Langara*, anchored more than a mile away in Algeciras Bay and which had been on lone surveillance duty, also left afterwards as scheduled. Its mission had been described by Madrid naval sources as "emphasizing Spain's presence in waters of its national jurisdiction".

Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, who ordered last week's diplomatic protest, has emphasized that Spain does not recognize any other national jurisdiction in the waters around Gibraltar, only "tolerance of the passage of ships".

Prince Andrew, aged 23, a helicopter pilot on the *Invincible*, appeared publicly on shore only once.

Many Gibraltarians believe that the Prince was observing strict instructions from the Queen to keep a low profile after his indiscretions recently in the Caribbean.

Zhao accuses Vietnam of invading Thailand

Canberra (Reuter) - Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, accused Vietnam yesterday of invading Thailand and said Hanoi was undermining stability in South-East Asia by repeated military action along the border with China.

"To our regret, the Vietnamese aggressors have to this day persisted in their armed occupation of Kampuchea and recently have gone further by frenziedly invading Thailand," Mr Zhao said in a speech to a parliamentary lunch in Canberra.

"What is more, they have repeatedly carried out military provocations along China's border. These actions... have seriously undermined the security and stability of South-East Asia."

The New China news agency said at the weekend that Chinese artillery had destroyed surface fortifications and earth defence works in Vietnam after frequent Vietnamese border attacks in the last month.

Diplomatic sources in Peking said the clashes between the two neighbours, who fought a bitter war in 1979, were clearly linked with Vietnamese raids on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

China's apparent aim was to distract Vietnam from its dry season offensive against Kampuchean guerrillas, they added.

Asian and Western diplomats say there is an understanding that China would react on its

border with Vietnam if Thailand felt threatened by Hanoi's troops in Kampuchea.

Mr Zhao also called for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

"Foreign troops of occupation must be withdrawn from Kampuchea and Afghanistan... and the problems of each country should be solved by its own people free from outside interference," he said.

Mr Zhao, the highest ranking Chinese leader to visit Australia in a decade, later met Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister who expressed concern over the Sino-Vietnamese border clashes.

Mr Hawke called on both countries to exercise restraint, an Australian official said, adding that the talks were frank and open. A similar message would be conveyed to Hanoi.

Mr Zhao was expected to raise strong objection to Mr Hawke's plan to resume economic aid to Vietnam.

China's relations with the United States, badly strained by President Reagan's support for Taiwan, were also discussed at the talks. The Chinese leader was highly critical of US policy.

● HANOI: Seventeen people were killed or wounded by mortar shells as China pounded Vietnamese positions for the third successive day, officials said here yesterday, AFP reports. Election trial, page 7.

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Prisoners of conscience



China: Chen Lu

By Caroline Moorehead

Mr Chen Lu, a technician, aged 39, has been in detention since March 29, 1979, when he was arrested at his home in Peking.

It is believed he has not been tried, and it is not known where he is being held.

In the two years after the fall of the Gang of Four in October 1976, a number of unofficial groups were set up, publishing small journals calling for the need to respect human rights and emphasizing the importance of free debate in Chinese society. The international press called this an "emerging free movement".

In the main Chinese cities, posters blossomed on the walls and in Peking one in particular soon became known as the Democracy Wall, and was widely regarded as a forum for democratic reforms and human rights.

Mr Chen became a member of the Human Rights Alliance, one of the better-known unofficial groups. His home address was used openly as a letter-box for the Alliance.

Towards the middle of March, 1979, the official Chinese press started criticising people who were said to be going too far in their demands for democracy.

Mr Chen was only one of many to be arrested, but is now one of the few not to have been released.

Finns try to save talks on security

From Olli Kivinen Helsinki

The eight neutral and non-aligned participants in the Madrid follow-up meeting of the European Security Conference (CSC) have issued a last-minute appeal of all heads of government to save the process from a total collapse.

The appeal, initiated by President Korhonen of Finland, urges all participants to accept the draft final document put forward by the neutral and non-aligned countries when the Madrid talks are resumed today.

Finland officials briefing journalists on the appeal said that the 34 CSC participants are very near to a compromise, and all important policy matters have been settled. Only the political will to take the final step is missing.

The appeal points out that the Helsinki Final Act is European states and the United States and Canada, but it is now feared that the whole process is in danger if results cannot be achieved in the Madrid conference, which has dragged on for two and half years.

The appeal points out that the draft includes concrete steps in all areas covered by the Helsinki Final Act, including military confidence-building measures and human rights.

If no understanding is reached, it is feared that the whole CSC process will be endangered.

● MOSCOW: The Warsaw Pact military council, which plans activities of the communist alliance, will meet in Bucharest during the last 10 days of April, Tass announced.

The council, which has mainly organizational and administrative functions, met last in October 1981 in Budapest. Its members are the Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania.

Security doctrine, page 12

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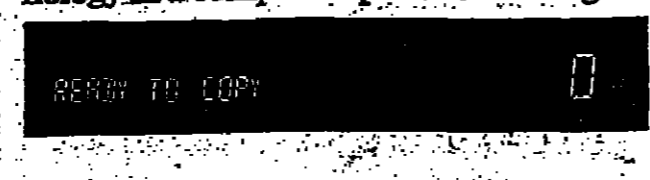
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UNESCO House, Paris: 25-29 April 1983

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1966 The United Nations terminates South Africa's mandate and assumes direct responsibility over Namibia;

1967 The United Nations Council for Namibia is established as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory until independence;

1971 The International Court of Justice also tells South Africa that it is under obligation to withdraw from the Territory;

1976 The Security Council unanimously calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia and for free and fair elections in the Territory under United Nations supervision and control;

1978 The Security Council adopts plan for Namibia's independence;

1983 The Namibian people are still denied their inalienable right to freedom, self-determination and independence.

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The gentle Gandhi forgotten in India

From Trevor Fishlock Delhi

Just after the premiere of Sir Richard Attenborough's film Gandhi in Delhi, the Indian cartoonist R. L. Laxman published a drawing of two men emerging from a cinema where the film was showing.

One man is saying: "I understand it is based on a true life story." There are many Indians who welcome the Attenborough film as a reminder of Gandhi's actions and teachings because they feel that, to some extent, the Mahatma, engineer of India's independence, has been forgotten in his own land.

Many of the young, who have to study his life in school, see him as largely irrelevant in terms of their own ideas about India in the 1980s, a faded and somewhat cranky figure in history.

There are many in the middle classes, especially Westernized people who tend to view him as an eccentric, just as some of his contemporaries did. He was a difficult and infuriating man. Indian feelings about him are so complex and sensitive - a mixture of pride, guilt and embarrassment - that it would be very hard for any Indian to attempt what Sir Richard Attenborough did.

The film has been generally well received in India; but it remains a subject of controversy in the newspapers and in conversation and is the central talking point of the year. It has made many reflect on the work of a man they do not know well.

Gandhi's image and ideas are often invoked - he was, after all, the father of independent India - but he is something of a totem and there are few who sincerely believe his methods and philosophy have practical application today.

His image is everywhere. Politicians frequently refer to Gandhian principles of self-help, service and humility. A visit to the Mahatma's cremation site in Delhi is obligatory for every visiting foreign notable. Even when bandits surrender publicly to the authorities a picture of the Mahatma is on the surrender platform.

Many politicians wear clothing made of homespun cotton and wool, a tradition stemming from Gandhi's rejection of Western dress.

Gandhi's methods of protest remain popular. "Courting arrest", making a token breach of the law in order to be arrested, is a constantly employed device, and fasting, which has a particular Gandhian symbolism, is frequently used to apply pressure on the authorities.

Gandhi called the untouchables "Harijans", meaning God's Children, and the name has stuck. But treatment of them remains unpleasant and sometimes brutal. Their lot is very slowly improving, but attitudes to them remain largely entrenched. It was a part of the Indian granite that Gandhi barely chipped.

Gandhi is consigned to history in the Indian mind as an enigmatic and idiosyncratic man, a shrewd politician who saw how the British sense of justice could be exploited and knew, as they did, that the game was up in India.

His steely defiance of authority is remembered, but his gentler ideas are largely forgotten. He wanted the humble spinning wheel, which was his symbol, to be the device on India's national flag. But India chose the powerful wheel device of the Emperor Ashoka.



Private visitor: Mrs Thatcher receiving Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Downing Street yesterday.

Reprisals feared as Libyans go on trial

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The trial opened here yesterday of two Libyans accused of torturing their fellow-countrymen in West Germany against a background of intensive efforts by Bonn to free eight Germans held in Libya as hostages.

Dr Mustafa Zaidi, aged 31, and a student, Abdullah Yahia, are accused of causing bodily harm, unlawful imprisonment and coercion. The prosecution maintains that on November 13 and 14 the two men tortured two students in the Libyan People's Bureau - the equivalent of an embassy - in Bonn, threatening them with forcible removal to Libya and death because of their contacts with Libyan opposition figures.

Dr Zaidi has been in custody since March 29 and Mr Yahia since April 5. Their trial opened amid strict security precautions, but was adjourned after a few hours as counsel for Mr Yahia demanded more time to discuss the matter with his client. Meanwhile Herr Jürgen Möllemann, the Deputy Foreign Minister, briefed Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, on his talks in Libya with Major Abdul Salam Jalloud.

Herr Möllemann flew there on Saturday to try to secure the release of eight German businessmen who have been detained on unspecified charges in clear reprisal for the arrest of the Libyans in West Germany.

Some 3,000 Germans are working in Libya, where a big public campaign has opened against the Federal Republic in connexion with the trial in Bonn. There is clear concern here that if the two Libyans are found guilty, the Germans will be used as hostages in the same way as American diplomats were in Tehran.

Pope tells rich to give more to Third World

From Peter Nichols, Rome and Japan. It is holding its fourteenth conference here.

The Pope reminded them that international solidarity not only involved relations between nations but all fields including governmental relations and those between multinational companies. Their discussions were closely connected with man's future and so they would constantly find themselves facing the frontiers between technology and ethics.

Challenge to reformers Police let rioters run amok

In his concluding article on the recent riots in Brazil, Patrick Knight, our São Paulo correspondent, looks at the various pressure groups which took advantage of what began as a demonstration by groups of unemployed.

The governor of one of the three main states captured by the opposition parties in the November election should come under serious challenge was widely expected in Brazil. But few expected that such a challenge would come less than three weeks after the governors had been installed, and before they had had time to make any impression on the economic and social problems they inherited.

The three governors have blamed anti-democratic forces for the disturbances, and President João Figueiredo has said that those responsible were trying to sabotage the country's progress towards democracy. The protests started with a legitimate, if unwisely timed, demonstration by groups of unemployed. They were encouraged to go further than they might otherwise have done by leaders of the extreme left, either inside or outside the PMDB party, which now controls São Paulo.

That gave a heaven-sent opportunity to extremists on the right to convert what began with the sacking of supermarkets into widespread looting and smashing of shops in the city centre. Some of the huge mass of unemployed and semi-unemployed, who spend most of the time wandering around the city centre, including Governor Franco Montoro said that he wanted to talk with the protesters before behaving like previous governors and breaking heads. But there is also evidence that the police deliberately held back until the riots became so serious that they could not easily be controlled.

When Brazil's three most important states, São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro, passed into the hands of the opposition, the central Government removed control of the political and social police from the governors. There are many groups with an interest in proving that a middle-of-the-road administration promised for the three states do not prosper. Identified by the police as playing a part were pressure groups from the left, including members of one of Brazil's two active supporters of Senator Montoro's PMDB party, which the expert reason that they have space to operate and consolidate themselves under such an administration.

Some of these groups were apparently behaving in good faith, although with considerable naivety, in trying to put pressure on the incoming

Bonn anger over death at border

From Michael Binyon Bonn

Herr Heinrich Windelen, the Minister for Relations with East Germany, has demanded an official explanation from East Berlin of how a West German traveller died on April 10 during questioning in East Germany by border guards.

The body of Herr Rudolf Burkert, a 45-year-old publisher, was sent back to West Germany in a sealed coffin with the explanation that he had died of a heart attack. West German Doctors, however, found numerous bruises on the body, cuts on the head and one eyelid, and a broken windpipe. These have led to suggestions that the man was severely beaten.

Herr Windelen asked for an explanation the next day without success, and the matter is to be taken up at the mixed border commission on Thursday. He has expressed fears that the details of what happened may never be known.

The incident has aroused considerable anger here, and comes at a time when an East German official has arrived to attend the Hanover Fair. Yesterday he was in Bonn for talks with government and opposition leaders in preparation for a possible visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

Herr Günter Mittag, an economics expert in the East German Politburo, yesterday met Christian Democratic and liberal members of Parliament, as well as Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, who expressed deep concern over the border incident.

Herr Mittag was also due to hold talks with Dr Helmut Kohl, but late yesterday it was still not clear whether the Chancellor would receive him in view of the affair.

The dead man, a former boxer, crossed into East Germany with his wife to drive to a boxer's reunion in West Berlin. Some 50 miles inside the frontier he met the husband of a cousin at a motorway rest-stop and gave him a box of sweets as a gift from the Hamburg sports union.

At the East German border crossing into West Berlin, Herr Burkert was ordered out of his car and into a room for questioning. Two hours later a woman doctor went to his wife and told her he had died.

Tanzania wants a year to clear up corruption

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Tanzania intends to follow up its recent countrywide campaign against corruption and black marketing, which has now produced about 500 arrests, with a new law requiring all Tanzanians to have "gainful occupations".

Mr Edward Sokoine, the Prime Minister, announced this at a rally attended by 50,000 people in Dodoma, central Tanzania, when he asked the nation to give him a year to clear up "bad elements" in the Government and restore the country's self-respect.

The campaign against black marketers, smugglers and hoarders has been producing shortages of many items which for long have been obtainable only on the free - or black - market.

Accused absent at Seveso trial

Monza (Reuters) - A lawyer yesterday described as a disgrace the absence of five senior company officials charged with responsibility for the 1976 Seveso pollution disaster when their trial opened here in Italy.

Four hours after the trial began, the judge granted an adjournment until May 11 at the request of lawyers for both the north Italian town of Seveso and the Swiss owners of the chemical plant in which an explosion caused the calamity.

Lawyers for the five defendants said their clients had chosen to exercise their right not to attend. The blast contained about 4,500 acres with highly toxic dioxin, necessitating mass evacuation, killing animals and causing an outbreak of the skin rash chloracne.

About 200 people including the Mayor of Seveso told the court they were seeking compensation. A lawyer representing former workers at the factory told reporters its owners, Givandani, a subsidiary of the Swiss multinational chemicals company Hoffman-La Roche, asked for the delay to examine their demands, while lawyers for Seveso commune wanted time to negotiate with Givandani for a financial settlement.

A lawyer representing 23 children whom he described as still suffering from chloracne as a result of the pollution said: "It is a disgrace that the accused are not here".

The accused are charged with responsibility for disaster, failure to provide adequate safety measures, and causing injury. They are Guy Walwegel, the former factory chairman, Rolf Wig von Zwickel, the managing director, Giovanni Radice, the technical director, Fritz Moeri the plant designer and Jörg-Anton Sambeth, the technical director.

Left-wing guerrillas killed a sixth defendant, Paolo Paoletti, the production manager. Several West European Governments have been demanding to know where the dioxin waste from Seveso has been dumped since 41 containers of the waste were removed from Italy by lorry last September and their whereabouts became a mystery.

Givandani has paid 103,000 lire (\$45m) to the Lombardy region, and separate sums to about 25,000 individuals and the nearby communes of Meda, Cesano Maderno and Desio; but has not reached a settlement with Seveso.

Of the defendants, only Signor Radice is Italian. Mr Walwegel and Mr Moeri are Swiss. Herr von Zwickel and Herr Sambeth are West German.

In Paris yesterday, police reported an attempted bomb attack on an office belonging to Hoffman-La Roche. They said the bomb, which was defused, was probably linked to the controversial disappearance of 41 containers of toxic waste from Seveso.

Swedish protest startles UN leader

From Christopher Mosey Stockholm

Peace activists attempted to disrupt a state visit to Sweden yesterday by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, using the occasion to draw attention to their country's arms exports to the Third World.

Demonstrators placed a barricade of cardboard boxes across the doorway of the main government administration building as the Secretary-General was about to enter, accompanied by Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, for a press conference. Each box was labelled with the name of a country receiving Swedish arms.

A security man kicked the boxes away and a startled Señor Pérez de Cuellar was only slightly delayed.

The activists distributed leaflets calling for an end of arms exports to Indonesia and claimed the Swedish weapons had been used to help kill a third of the 700,000 inhabitants of East Timor, which Indonesia had occupied in defiance of a UN resolution.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

10,000 Israelis demonstrate against Nablus expansion

From Christopher Walker, Nablus

A cluster of 15 inhospitable mobile homes perched precariously on top of Mount Gerizim overlooking the occupied Palestinian town of Nablus became the focus yesterday of one of the largest demonstrations seen in the West Bank against the Begin Government's expansionist settlement drive.

About 10,000 Israeli protesters made their way by coach, car and on foot up the long winding road to the spot which is now known as "Upper Nablus" and is eventually intended to be a Jewish suburb which will house some 4,000 Israelis in new homes built strategically overlooking the 80,000 Nablus Arabs.

The Government's decision to reinforce the symbolism of the ceremony by staging it on the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence added to the protesters' anger. Many claimed it was a provocative ploy designed to give the impression of national consensus for a type of settlement that many Israelis fiercely oppose.

"I believe that we have as much right to be here as in Tel Aviv, but I do not think we are going to get peace if we deliberately choose to live right among the local Arabs," explained one demonstrator, uncomfortably wrapped in plastic sheeting against the swirling rain. "This settlement is a real obstacle to me or my children ever living without war."

Flapping in the wind yesterday on top of the 800 yard high

Samaritan mountaintop where the new Jewish suburb will be built were scores of posters castigating the ruling coalition for its action.

I travelled the last leg of the journey in a coach full of Gush Emunim supporters, many nursing the automatic weapons which most West Bank settlers carry as a matter of course. All seemed confident that their hawkish views represented the solid majority of Israeli voters.

"There will be no going back on the settlement now," said one student at a Yeshiva, or Jewish religious college. He added: "We should now be settling everywhere in the biblical land of Israel, even in the heart of Nablus itself."

In his headline independence day message Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, flatly rejected any suggestions that the resumption of talks on autonomy for the West Bank Arabs should be conditional on a freeze on Jewish settlements.

"This settlement is legal and derives from our inalienable right to the land of Israel," he said.

On Thursday, a special session of the Knesset has been summoned at the request of more than 30 members of the Opposition to debate the Government's controversial decision to hold the ceremony at "Upper Nablus" on a national holiday traditionally designed to reflect the unifying quality of Israeli life rather than its divisions.

Pym says settlements are preventing peace

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

There could be no peace in the Middle East unless Israel stopped building settlements in its occupied territories, Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

He also urged the Begin Government to start a general withdrawal of forces from Lebanon by agreeing to remove its own troops.

He did not know whether President Reagan's peace initiative could be revived, he told the Foreign Press Association. But its prospects would be "immeasurably improved" by a decision to pull back Israeli forces.

Farm demand may bankrupt EEC

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

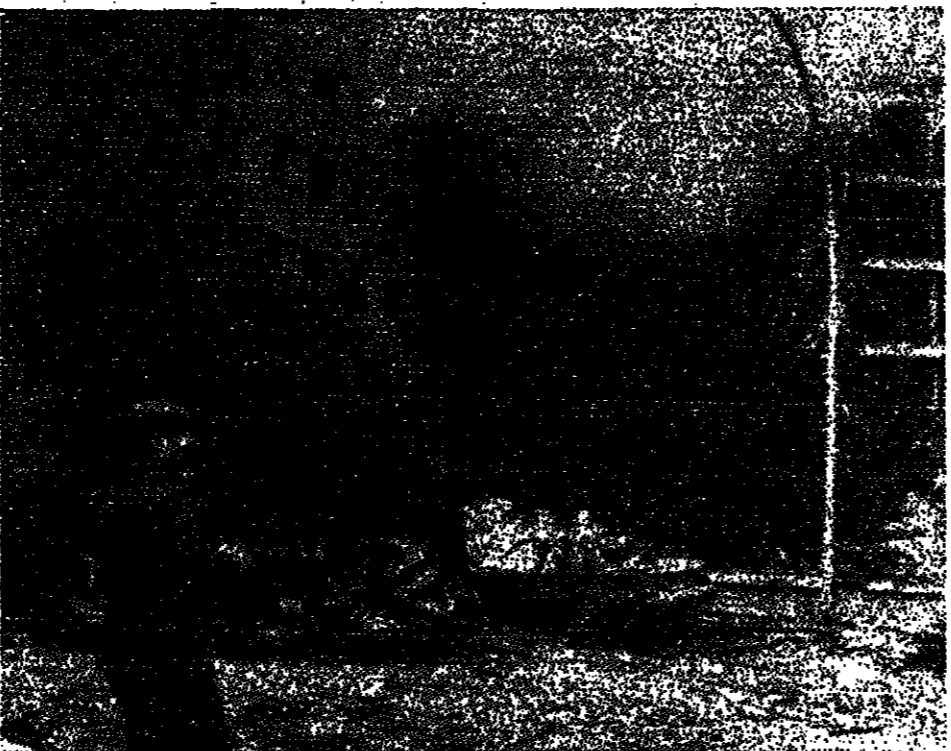
EEC farmers this year have already asked the Community for 35 per cent more money than they did in the same period last year. This means that the Community could all but have exhausted its available money by December.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

West Germany and The Netherlands, alone, were prepared to accept the proposals as they stood. Only Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, argued that the new estimates showed there had to be a reduction in the suggested increases.

The Commission admits in its paper that the calculations made when the farm price proposals were drawn up last December were wrong on two points. First, it estimated that the average increase in farming wages would be lower than the 9



Bomb blast in Beirut: A Lebanese policeman (left) standing guard, smoke billowing from the American Embassy and from burning cars, and (right) rescue vehicles.

How ambassador survived explosion

Beirut (AP and Reuters) - Mr Robert Dillon, the American Ambassador here, who was trapped in the rubble of an explosion that wrecked his embassy, said: "I have got to continue" the peace effort.

He told reporters outside the embassy's shattered facade: "The negotiations will go ahead. It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything. The United States mission will continue."

Mr Dillon, who has been in Lebanon for more than two years, said he was standing up, a telephone receiver in one hand and a T-shirt in another, when the blast occurred shortly after 1pm (12pm BST).

"Both of them feel as I do that we can't let this stop our work. We've got to continue," Mr Dillon said. "I can't see why it should affect the peace process."

The Reagan Administration is sponsoring the ongoing talks between Israel and Lebanon on the withdrawal of more than 70,000 Foreign troops from this country of three million inhabitants.

Mr Philip Habib the US presidential envoy and his assistant, Mr Morris Draper, were in the presidential palace at the time of the explosion. Lebanese radio reports said Mr Habib's secretary was cut by flying glass.

Blast fails to deter Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan declared yesterday that the car bomb explosion outside the American Embassy in Beirut would not deter the US from its goals of peace in the region.

In a special statement during a White House ceremony at which he presented prizes to Peace Corps volunteers, the President described the bombing as "a cowardly act".

He said he had instructed Mr Philip Habib and Mr Morris Draper, his two special envoys to the Middle East, to press ahead with negotiations for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.



Heroism and tears among the scenes of horror

Continued from page 1

which a team of young Lebanese Red Cross men and women were shovelling onto stretchers. One girl in blood-stained white overalls was moving through the still-smoking vis section with a bucket. No-one in that part of the building appeared to have survived, for the men and women, some of them stripped half-naked by the force of the explosion.

Infinitely more terrible was the scene we were to witness a few seconds later. For a slight breeze blew in from the sea and moved the curtains of smoke in front of the Embassy to reveal that seven entire storeys at the front of the building had paneled down on top of each other and were now suspended perilously over the roadway.

And there, hanging upside down from a fourth floor, his legs hopelessly crushed by the concrete above him, hung the body of a middle-aged man in a brown suit, his arms hanging listlessly downwards, an ant-trail of blood running down the floors beneath him.

Perhaps such dreadful things inspire courage. For one of the French soldiers threw his beret to the ground and clambered into the burning Embassy. We saw him later, inching his way along a knife-edge of broken concrete, 40 feet up the ruins and scrambling into a black hole in the pancaked floors to look for survivors.

detachment arrived from the airport and stared in horror at the devastation. "I don't believe it, I don't believe it," one of them kept shouting in anger.

Out in the Mediterranean, the helicopter carrier Guadalcanal steamed ponderously down to take up station parallel to the embassy, accompanied by its destroyer escort, a symbol of power made impotent by Lebanon's special kind of war.

Mr Morris Draper, one of President Reagan's Middle East negotiators, arrived at the embassy, shaking with emotion and almost in tears. "Where is my wife? Where is my wife?" he kept pleading until someone told him she had been taken.

slightly hurt but alive, from the building. The killers may have been trying to murder Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's chief envoy, but he was, as usual in Beirut, at President Amin Gemayel's palace at Baabda. Mr Robert Dillon, the tall, white-haired Ambassador, had been in his office when the bomb exploded and was trapped in heaps of rubble when the floor collapsed.

But he was rescued by colleagues and was able to return to the Embassy four hours later and tell journalists that America had "got to continue" her peace efforts in the Middle East.

"The negotiations will go ahead," he said. "It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything - the US mission will continue."

Mr Dillon later suggested that the bomb might have been brought into the Embassy driveway by a motorist who could have crashed through the security barricade. However, the sad truth is that security was very lax around the American compound and Lebanese sentry boxes - including those beside the driveway - were often unmanned. The Lebanese Army probably realised this, for later in the afternoon they began to threaten foreign correspondents at the scene, tearing film out of cameras and - in one case - hitting a journalist in the face with a rifle butt. Another Lebanese soldier threatened to hit a US Marine press officer.

All-church summit plea by Runcie

Wellington - The Archbishop of Canterbury, who is visiting New Zealand, is seeking a peace summit of international religious leaders, our correspondent writes.

Dr Runcie said in Christchurch yesterday that this was one way the Anglican Church could work against the nuclear threat and he hoped that the Pope, the Patriarch of Moscow and representatives of the World Council of Churches would attend.

Spain will cut back on nuclear power plants

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spain will reduce its commitment to nuclear power and possibly abandon the construction of some nuclear plants which are already being built, according to Señora Carmen Mestre, the Director-General of Energy.

Addressing a symposium at the Ministry of Industry and Energy, Señora Mestre emphasized the need to scale down investment, which was based on over-optimistic calculations of future energy needs. She also emphasized the desirability of waiting for the development of absolute guarantees of safety nuclear power stations.

However, informed sources indicated other compelling reasons for the Government's decision to scale down its nuclear power plans which Señora Mestre did not mention. They are both economic and political. In the first place, the current expansion of Spanish energy facilities was financed to a considerable extent with loans to power companies from

foreign banks, mostly in dollars. The depreciation of the value of the peseta means that the power companies have to repay in dollars the equivalent of nearly twice the amount of pesetas borrowed.

In addition, refinancing and high interest rates pose the threat of serious financial difficulties for the country's power companies unless the requirements contained in existing national energy plan are revised downward.

Sources pointed out that finance costs in some companies are now in the neighbourhood of 35 per cent, and a business failure of big power companies "could bring the whole economy tumbling down". At the same time there is increasing political opposition to the use of nuclear power. This is reflected in work stoppages and, in some cases, deliberate destruction, as well as more rigorous safety inspections.

Running of America kept in the family

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The Reagan Administration critics are seeking to find out how the children and other relatives of some senior Administration officials have got well-paid jobs with the Federal Government for which they appear to have no special qualifications.

Most have been taken on by the United States Information Agency, which is responsible for putting out information about American policy and culture overseas.

Since President Reagan came to office the agency has taken on at least 150 political appointees, many of whom have been given plum posts in London and Paris.

Among those who have benefited from the agency's liberal hiring policy are the sons and daughters of Mr William Clark, the National

Security adviser, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary and Mr Alexander Haig, the former Secretary of State.

The agency is run by Mr Charles Wick, a former hand-leader and producer of the film *Snow White and the Three Stooges*.

Senator Edward Zorinsky, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee, has written to Mr Wick demanding to know whether the appointments "violate the letter or the spirit of any anti-nepotism laws or regulations."

A spokesman for the agency insisted the appointees were all qualified for their positions.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kiddlegate."

Army gets its way in Thai election

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The general election in Thailand yesterday appears to have produced the result wanted by the Army, which was largely responsible for the election being called two months early.

Although many votes are still uncounted it appears likely that, as predicted, no party has won a majority, and consequently the next government will be another coalition.

Seven hours after counting began six different parties had won seats, indicating that the new Parliament, like the last, would have a fragmented membership.

It is the type of assembly the Army had in mind when last month it forced the abandonment of a new electoral system designed to give the larger political parties a good chance of obtaining a workable majority at this election.

The results so far declared give nine seats to the Social Action Party, the largest in the former Parliament, 11 to the Democrats, six to the Chart Thai party, and smaller numbers to three other parties. Independents appeared to be

doing badly. There are 324 seats to be filled.

Sitting members were holding their seats in almost all these results. The Army would see the emergence of a civilian government with a workable majority in Parliament as a threat.

Many national figures feared that such a result might have prompted the military to overthrow the government by force. One of those who said he "hoped and prayed" he would not win because of that danger, is Mr Kukrit Pramoj, a former Prime Minister and leader of the Social Action Party.

Tokyo 'believes spy's story'

Tokyo (Reuters) - The Japanese Government believed statements by Mr Stanislav Levchenko, a former Tokyo-based KGB agent, about alleged Japanese collaborators to be generally reliable, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Levchenko, who defected to the United States in 1979, had identified by name eight Japanese collaborators and another 18 by KGB code names, publishers of the Japanese edition of *Readers Digest* disclosed last week.

Bandit jailed

Delhi (AFP) - Phoolan Devi, the 22-year-old bandit queen, whose exploits in the central Indian outback have become almost legendary here, has been sentenced to five years hard labour for illegal arms possession. She gave herself up in February. Several charges of manslaughter still face her.

Mafioso caught

Palermo (Reuters) - Paramilitary police bust into a luxurious seashore villa near here and arrested Giovanni Lo Verde, aged 44, one of Sicily's most wanted alleged Mafia bosses.

He had been sought since escaping in a blaze of gunfire during a raid on a gang stronghold in October 1981.

Japanese strike

Tokyo (Reuters) - Dockworkers launched a 24-hour strike at Japan's ports to back demands for job security threatened by increasing containerization. Walkouts are also planned at nine container berths for five days from today and three days from April 26.

More flogged

Karachi (Reuters) - Pakistani jailers flogged 122 more Muslim militants for taking part in religious violence here.

Lippizaner chief blamed for deaths

Vienna (AP) - Two prominent veterinary surgeons have accused Herr Heinrich Lehrner, director of Austria's Lippizaner stud farm of responsibility for the deaths of 39 prizel horses, saying he repeatedly ignored expert advice to inoculate the animals against a deadly epidemic.

Herr Lehrner rejected the accusation, saying that he had never heard a thing about the importance of the inoculations until yesterday and accused Professor Kurt Arbeiter and Professor Franz Buerki of Vienna's renowned Veterinary University, with publishing their critical comments as an act of revenge against him.

He implied in an interview that they were trying to cover up their own incorrect behaviour by criticizing him.

After a minor outbreak of herpes virus-induced rhinopneumonitis at Vienna's Spanish Riding School in 1979, Professor Buerki first wrote to Herr Lehrner "urgently" recommending inoculation at the farm to prevent the threatened expansion of the disease, the statement said.

"All warnings remained ignored" by Herr Lehrner and officials at the Agriculture Ministry, in charge of the farm, Herr Lehrner implied that the accusations were meant to divert attention from the fact that the professors had declined to visit the farm during the worst of the crisis, despite his express pleas.

Queensland worst for Aborigines

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

Results of research published in the latest issue of the *Medical Journal of Australia* reveal that the death rate from infectious diseases among Aborigines in large reserves in Queensland is 90 times higher than the state average.

The research, based on Queensland government data not normally made public, also showed that the death rate on the reserves from heart disease, violence and accidents was three times higher.

The Queensland health authorities originally made the semi-confidential figures available to defence counsel for an Aboriginal who pleaded guilty to, and was convicted of, the manslaughter of his common law wife. The information was used to prepare a sociological study of life on the reserve for the court.

Dr Paul Wilson, a sociologist, who is one of the authors of the report, said that the reserves with highest death rate were those run by the State Department of Aboriginal and Islander Advancement. The researchers study the mortality rate on Queensland's 14 largest reserves with a total population of over 11,000.

The researchers also found that the relatively high mortality rate did not necessarily diminish even where there were reasonably high standards of public hygiene such as sewerage and good water supply.

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FASHION by Suzy Menkes



Starring in the rain

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN.

I am proud and honoured to receive this Oscar from you tonight. It is the first time in 54 years of the Academy Awards that a Raincoat has been singled out by the Motion Picture Industry - even though it has featured heavily in the history of Hollywood. I think especially of those very wonderful performers Greta Garbo and Humphrey Bogart, both sadly no longer with us. I salute the style of that great lady Lauren Bacall. I should also like to honour the memory

of the legendary Marlene Dietrich in her man's trench coat and to remind you all of that successful long-running cinematic series *Sex Appeal in the Rain*, starring Sophia Loren getting wet. A raincoat is only as good as its producers, and I share the glory of this Oscar with Aquascutum and Burberry who have given me so much support over the years. I was especially pleased to see the award for Best Colour Range go

to Aquascutum for its newly refurbished mackintosh department in Regent Street. To my distributors, I also express my gratitude, especially to Harrods, who have included so many different styles, to Simpsons for elegance and variety, to Harvey Nichols for designer collections, and to Fenwick who do so much at popular prices for young people. Finally, I should like to thank the one thing that has

made this award possible. The raincoat, as you know, is a British success story. And we in Britain have something back home that you in Los Angeles saw for the first time during the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month. Ladies and Gentleman, I accept this Oscar on behalf of the British Rain, that has fallen continuously on my country for the past month, thus ensuring me a long successful run.



BEST ALL ROUND PERFORMER: The Classic Trench (right), starring Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo, Humphrey Bogart, Marilyn Monroe, Jeanne Moreau and the entire population of Japan. Produced in lightweight lined cotton, tan only, sizes 36-44in, £185 from 92 Department at Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1. Felt hat by Bermona. Sheer tights from Elbeo. Silletto court shoes from Freemans Mail Order.

NOMINATIONS: Classic Burberry with distinctive check lining at £175. Marks & Spencer's double breasted raincoat with small check lining, in stone and light brown, £45. Daininac's trench from Fenwick, £57. Big nylon foldaway trench coat £18.99 from F&P, 125 Long Acro, Covent Garden, WC2.



BEST SUPPORTING ROLE: Black Cire (above), starring Lauren Bacall and Juliette Greco, shot mainly on location on the Left Bank in Paris, with brief flashes of shiny PVC in Proving London in the 1960s. Produced in rubberized cotton in black only, four basic styles, single and double breasted, sizes to order £65 from Weather Vain, 283 Sandycroft Road, Kew, Surrey. Parsipex and leather waist-cincher £22.95 by Nancy Fisher from Stirling Cooper. White circular skirt £24.99 by Strawberry Studio. White sweetheart sweater £28.95 from Fenwick.

NOMINATIONS: Original 1960s PVC from Camden Lock and Kensington Market. Sweet Charity's black plastic mini mac £19.50 from First Floor, Kensington Market, High Street, Kensington, W8, p & p £2.00. Stirling Cooper's shiny grey three-quarter mac £38.99 from 94 New Bond Street. Millets' range of plastic and rubberized macs and jackets from £2.99.



BEST SEX APPEAL: The White Raincoat (far right), starring Sophia Loren, Gina Lollobrigida, all cinema journalists and Walls Cornetto salesman. A sultry tale of passion in Italy in the 1950s, recently reissued. Produced by Michael Mortell with eyeliner trim and showerproof leather collar £139 from Weathercoats department at Harrods, also in khaki and brown. Animal paw-print top £3.95 from Pacific, New Bond Street. Headscarf £2.95 from Fenwick. Gloves by Dent-Fowles.

NOMINATIONS: Femenella at Fenwick, £59 with stand or turn-down collar. Anne Marie Beretta's white plastic and long cape for Remesport, £127 from Harvey Nichols. Film-Fire's clean and simple styling from a wide range at Selfridges, Oxford Street.



PHOTOGRAPHSNICK BRIGGS
MAKE-UPStars' visages created by CLIFFORD BRAKE for REVLON using their Pink in the Afternoon range
HAIRCLIFFORD BRAKE for MICHAELJOHN
FASHION ASSISTANTCHRISTINE PAINELL

FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Are the TV companies pulling the woolies over our eyes? The only radical change that I can see over my children's shoulders in the morning, is that Nick Owen's sweater has taken over from Frost's business suit. Any other alterations to morning television are purely cosmetic. The fuss over Selma's poached egg eyes, Frank Bough's ruffled jumpers and Angela's headmistress hairstyle has been greeted by the Famous Five as signs of trivial media reaction and poor taste. I do not disagree so lightly the fact that the biggest star of breakfast television has been the sweater. For who still believes that what you wear is not an important signal (for both sexes) of who you are, what group you identify with or which image you are aiming for? The fashion catchphrase of the last decade has been that "anything goes", and it is true that the sartorial standards which equated clothes with status have been unspiced. But dress is still an identifiable badge of class, career, age, or even regional groupings, and in the current fashion anarchy, the desire to identify is stronger than ever. The cult of Preppy clothes in America and the Sloane Ranger

affection of green wellies and heakies are used as secret weapons in a guerrilla war of class, in which the rules are changed as soon as the masses discover what the elite are wearing. In Germany, the political fight between the Greens and the Christian Democrats is being acted out in costumes so corny they look like a caricature: long hair, beards and blue denim against sober suits, collars and ties. The Greenham Common women dress in a parody of protest style, although my anti-fashion sisters will not thank me for pointing to the wellies and clogs, the leg warmers and hand knits, the badge-decorated dungarees and the ubiquitous woolly hat. (It has become such a potent peace symbol that the local residents refuse to wear it lest they should be identified with the invaders.) There was an earlier peace style of duffels and corduroys, as worn by readers of the *New Statesman* and still worn by old statesmen like Michael Foot. The fashion exhibition at the Brighton Museum actually has the CND uniform of dark duffel coat and badge on display. Now fashion has become so fragmented that whatever your cause you dress for it. Earth mothers and middle aged hippies still cling to floral prints and ethnic accessories (kellin shoulder bags, straw baskets, long woolly scarves and shawls). The unemployed are drawn to the smart suit, dad's badge of office life. The uniformed classes wear their authority off-duty with knife creases down their terylene slacks. Army wives identify in elbow-patched sweaters, a pastiche of the paras. In this kaleidoscope of style, these is the know recognize it when they see it. (Thus the Camden Palace follows the tradition of all fashionable nightspots by insisting on a certain standard of dress, although they are smart enough to make their own valuation and not get hoist by a collar and tie.) The only obvious mainstream movement of the last decade, has been away from formal clothes and towards sportswear (although I believe that this will now begin to go in reverse). Given that casual wear is now king, it was very unwise of TV-am to think that presenting a smart face to the waking world would endear them to the viewing public. So on with the sweaters - and on with the show.



Hepworths: after Next for women, a First for men

Can Terence Conran do a Next on Hepworths itself? The Next fashion chain sprung fully clothed - under the design inspiration of Conran - from the remains of 78 Kendalls stores 18 months ago when they were bought by Hepworths. Now Next has a £40m turnover, more than 100 branches and an image of dynamism in coordinating women's wear. The staid Hepworths men's stores took up the challenge last week with a show that had everything from a camped-up film producer to a rag week student wearing nothing but a college scarf. (He was soon dressed from stock.) More important, Hepworths in Regent Street, along with 150 of the 283 high street stores, has had a face-lift. A video film of a week in the life of a team of British workmen, showed us how a shop can be re-fitted at high speed with elegant grey-felt walls decorated with burgundy carriage lines (just coincidentally the Conran-designed colour scheme at Next). Blotson jacket £24.99. Sweater and shorts both £9.99 from Hepworths. Photograph by HARRY KERR.

Terence Conran himself, wearing a pink tie and an enigmatic smile, told me that Next was the model for the new Hepworths, although things tend to move at a slower pace in the menswear business. "The Hepworths image has been honest, solid and traditional," says Bob Russell, managing director of Hepworths (Retail) Ltd. "We have been more than a year planning its re-birth and taking a fresh look at men's clothes." The new shops, says Mr Russell, are designed in colour scheme and lay-out to appeal to the female shopper and the coordination of the clothes is also aimed at the sharper fashion eye of wives and girlfriends. "We don't underestimate the importance of the woman who visits the store during the week and comes back at the weekend bringing her man." Mr Russell speaks reverently of the "soft statement" wall panels showing coordinated outfits, with rails of clothes aimed at the 24 to 45 age group (the original target of Next, although their customers now tend to be younger). The real change of image for Hepworths lies in the clothes, which are still fairly middle-of-the-road in style and colour but now concentrate more strongly on sportswear, with casual shirts, blouses and unstructured jackets edging out the formal suits. Hepworths have been known for over a century for their suits. Now 50 per cent of the merchandise is in casual wear with every accessory from underpants to umbrellas on sale, alongside the more formal coats and raincoats. But the real news, which is sending a frisson of fear through the rest of menswear retailing, is that Hepworths have launched a new own label brand of casual wear called First. Whatever Next?

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WHEN BRITISH IS BEST



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May. Cotton culottes £49
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Matching sweater £19.50

Melanie. Single-breasted wool
suit £199

San Antonio. Wool double-breasted overcoat £189
Michael. Wool trousers £59

Toulon. Raincoat £199



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THE ARTS

Television
Fearful
crime

Burglary pays. Legitimate businesses may ponder tomorrow's uncertainties, but burglary booms, with nearly two break-ins a minute. Burglars can afford to be cocky about it: there is only one conviction for about every 90 burglaries.

Sir Robert Mark, former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, says the public fears burglary more than any other crime but is largely unaware of the situation. "There is a general, widespread and entirely mistaken conception that the police and courts are an adequate and effective deterrent to burglary. It just simply isn't true."

Granada's World in Action is showing two programmes, *Offence Against the Person*, to make us more aware. In the first, last night, Mr Stanley Bailey, Newcastle's Chief Constable, whose patch was visited to demonstrate Sir Robert's points, said that the worst feature of the boom was the fear. People did not go out for fear of being burgled.

In Tyneside, one house in four is burgled every other year. Police were shown in conscientious but implicitly vain investigation. A fingerprint man said he expected to be dusting around 20 houses on a normal Sunday. Victims mourned not just material losses but the feeling of violation which often affects nervous and physical health. An Oxford criminologist, Mr Michael Maguire, without underestimating the problem, said that the fear of the crime was often based on a wrong perspective.

Britain now has 140 voluntary groups trying to assist victims whose sense of security is shattered. And it is not just fat cats who get burgled: the poorer districts of the inner cities are the worst affected. Police are not convinced that the consequent boom in security systems does much to deter resolute burglars.

By no means all are professional in the traditional sense. Seventy per cent are under 21; 40 per cent under 17. Mr William Whitelaw appeared briefly to speak of the Home Office's publicity campaign, the largest ever, against the crime. Next week we are to hear of the changes in police tactics which are being considered. That should provide another good reason for staying in.

On BBC 2 *Horizon* showed an American-produced dramatized account of the official inquiry into the Three Mile Island nuclear power accident in 1979, somewhat technical but clear enough in its message: the operators could not tell what was happening, the manufacturers got it wrong, the government body, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, reacted with a whole set of wrong assumptions.

It will be 1985 before decontamination is complete. It will have cost \$1 billion, twice the original estimate. Despite inquiry and expense, the programme concluded that, unless the system governing nuclear power changes, more Three Mile Islands are inevitable. Altogether a chilling start to the week.

Dennis Hackett

A movement that stirred the world

The Hague School

Royal Academy

Alexander Mann

Fine Art Society

William Henry Yule

Pyms Gallery

The thing about art history is that, however much you know in theory, there are always gaps to be filled in by direct reference to the art that the history is supposed to be all about. And the missing pieces of the jigsaw puzzle frequently prove not quite to fit where and in the way that they are supposed to. Nobody and nothing can be safely dismissed - not, at any rate, until we have had a proper look at it.

Which is where exhibitions like The Hague School, at the Royal Academy until July 10, come in. You might be forgiven a certain vagueness about even which century the artists in question belong to, so the show's subtitle obligingly fills in the necessary detail: "Dutch Masters of the Nineteenth Century". But, beyond that, who are they and what does their painting look like?

Puzzling questions indeed, today, in 1983. But a century ago we would probably have had little difficulty in answering them. For then the vogue for Holland was in full swing. Painters from all over the world flocked to Holland to paint the local sites and costumes and customs as Max Liebermann wrote in 1901, "Any young man of any energy made the pilgrimage to Holland, bringing back with him a wooden shoe, a white cap and a long clay pipe, the Dutch window with its little leaded lights became the fashion". And the fashion was initiated by the spectacular impact contemporary Dutch artists were making on the international art scene.

Then, names like Mauve, Israels and the brothers Maris would have been very familiar to British art lovers. Books were published in English about them and their work, and poking around in provincial art collections or the basement of the National Gallery will soon uncover excellent examples, probably hard by the paintings of lesser members of the Barbizon School who were in many respects their French equivalents. They painted mostly landscape and genre pictures - landscapes mirroring with infinite variation the grey skies and flat green pastures of Holland, interiors of humble but seldom abject peasant life.

The stylistic range was deliberately quiet and unassertive: the painters saw themselves principally as realists, showing life and landscape as they really were. And so successful were they, for their time, that the shock of the new in their work sent waves of excited response throughout Europe and even across the Atlantic.

Renewing acquaintance is quite a comfortable experience. You can see exactly where they come from and exactly where they lead. Three years ago an important show emphasized



this aspect, even in its title, *Mondriaan and the Hague School*; it toured Manchester, Southampton, Birmingham and Norwich, but never came to London. For those who saw it, the implication was plain enough: the Hague School mattered because, improbably, senior artists in Mondriaan's family belonged to it and he himself began his long pilgrimage to abstraction right there. In the present show we end up with half a dozen very early Mondriaans - and it must be said that seldom can the beginnings of a great artist have been quite so unimpressive as these unappetizing daubs, with a noticeable sense of form only just tentatively emerging in what one imagines to be the latest. We are also reminded, for good measure, that Van Gogh's beginnings were very much in the heart of the Hague School.

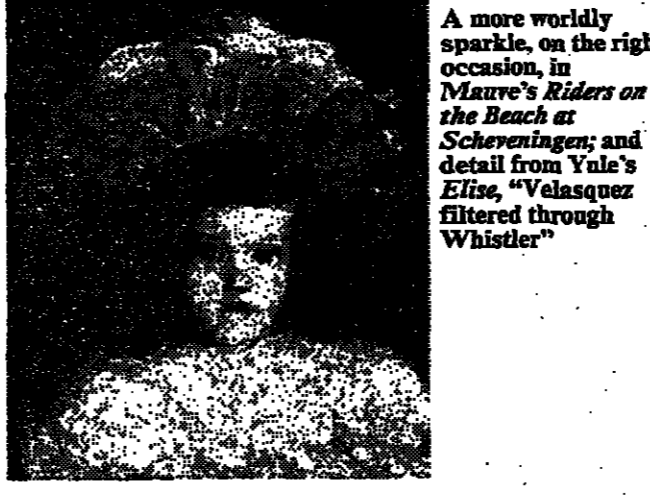
But, to be worthwhile to more than a tiny minority of specialists, an exhibition has to do more than merely fill in a few dark areas of history. And here the present show triumphantly succeeds. Quite irrespective of where, if anywhere, their work led, these nineteenth-century Dutch painters are eminently worth rediscovering just on their own merits. They do not have the kind of immediate, dramatic impact which floors you as you enter the first gallery, but they exert a slow-growing but intense fascination as you look leisurely round. You can well appreciate why Mauve had such a high reputation in his own time as a landscape artist and recorder of peasant lives and labours: he paints farm animals with full sympathy and understanding, and has a special feeling for peasants bent under lowering skies, but also, as *Riders on the Beach* at Scheveningen demonstrates, he can respond with a more worldly sparkle when the occasion seems right.

You can also begin to tell the

three Marises apart, and note particularly how Matthijs moved gradually away from realism towards a Symbolic style which rather recalls some Scottish contemporaries. You can make discoveries of enchanting individual pictures, like Rosier's *The Rainbow*, with its stunning evocation of late sunshine after rain, or Gabriel's *Train in Landscape*, with its vivid creation of almost limitless space. And you can discover a source of continuing delight in the work of Weissenbruch, represented by 23 landscapes of such consistently high quality and such astonishing feeling for colour and bizarre but effective composition that one wonders why he is not better known, however deep the neglect into which the school in general has fallen. No doubt the Hague School will still not be to everybody's taste - but then what is? For those on the right wavelength the show will be a revelation indeed.

While we are in the business of rediscovery - and in very much the right period - there are two more shows of considerable interest on in London at the moment, devoted to a couple of the more thoroughly forgotten Scottish artists from the latter end of the nineteenth century. Alexander Mann (1853-1908) and William James Yule (1867-1900). And if you have never heard of either of them, it is even more understandable than a measure of vagueness about the Hague School, since both have been completely ignored since their deaths. Which is, in both cases, much too long.

Alexander Mann, whose work is showing at the Fine Art Society until May 6, lived longer and was the more accomplished of the two, though also the more difficult to pin down as an artistic personality. He was born in Glasgow, studied in Paris and absorbed all the regular influences of the



A more worldly sparkle, on the right occasion, in *Mauve's Riders on the Beach* at Scheveningen; and detail from Yule's *Elise*, "Velasquez filtered through Whistler".

time, from Bastien-Lepage's crisp and chilly pictures of French peasant life to the proto-impressionism of the Hague School and the oriental leanings of Whistler and his group. He seems to have had private means, travelled a lot and, though he exhibited widely, never had to push his work in a fully professional fashion. Professional in his attitude to painting he decidedly was, however, and in whatever style he chose to paint, he seems to have achieved complete proficiency. There are in this show one or two dull pictures, but nothing which is not wonderfully accomplished, even when, in later days, he drifts rather alarmingly over into Symbolist fantasy. The connecting links between his various styles and phases are not very strong or evident, but an artist who can well justify the exhibition of 72 paintings at once without boring or satiating us does not deserve 80 years of total neglect.

William James Yule died at the age of 33, and was obviously far less formed as an artist than Mann. Perhaps for this very reason, he seems much more coherent and consistent, if never quite so showily effective. His work appears, from the

examples on view at Pym's Gallery in Motcomb Street until May 14, to hover, as far as the draughtsmanship is concerned, between the two poles of Whistler and Phil May: the many pencil and pen sketches show him to have been a fresh, precise and sometimes humorous observer of men and manners, with a cheeky feeling for the atmosphere of city streets. His paintings, naturally, favour Whistler rather more, as in the charming childhood portrait of *Elise*, which, as the catalogue nicely remarks, suggests Velasquez filtered through Whistler.

Yule spent time in Spain, and painted vividly there; he also had Glasgow longings on him to produce symbolic idylls, and the major work left unfinished at his death, *Girls Dancing in a Meadow*, though not very satisfactory in its present form, does suggest interesting lines of development. Yule remains a case of potential more marked than achievement. But there is no doubting the talent, or the pleasure to be derived, even at this distance in time, from his company.

John Russell Taylor

Theatre
Cynical musings

The death of Tennessee Williams leaves Sam Shepherd perhaps the leading active American playwright, since Arthur Miller and Edward Albee have for some years now rested on the laurels garnered by their earlier plays. Mr Shepherd's latest work, *Fool for Love*, unveiled by the Magic Theater in San Francisco, gives one pause to reflect upon the state of contemporary American drama, particularly in the West and Middle West.

This impressive production offers four accomplished actors almost perfectly cast, and Mr Shepherd has directed his play with a technical virtuosity no doubt rooted in his own considerable experience as an actor. Andy Stacklin has designed a cheap, bare western motel room unwelcoming enough to curdle the blood, and Ardrys L. Golden has provided costumes so naturalistic their wearers appear to have had them on for weeks or even months.

The electric tension between May and Eddie (Kathy Baker and Ed Harris; both of them outstanding, at times even brilliant) evokes two horse-shoe magnets: they can attract irresistibly or, with poles reversed, irresistibly repel. They refer to a sexual bond of some years' standing, but over that relationship hangs an evident threatening, perhaps horrible shadow. Lovell (Sibbins) Mr Shepherd tantalizes us. Downstage left, a repulsive old man (Will Marchetti) guzzles straight cheap bourbon, acting as a sort of Far-West Greek chorus. The arrival of May's date Martin (Dennis Ludlow) provides the fuse which finally ignites the explosion.

Mr Shepherd's sure sense of theatricality, to judge by this play, considerably exceeds his intellectual and poetic capability for transmitting such sombre material into art. He has an exceptional, finely attuned ear, but he fails to make May and Eddie, both of them obviously wretchedly unhappy,

lost souls - worth our really caring about. One comes away not purged by an inevitable conflict and confrontation, with almost truly tragic overtones, but rather musing as to the degree of cynicism governing Mr Shepherd's choice of sensational material.

Other recent theatrical events hereabouts have offered almost an embarrassment of choice, much of it outstanding by any standards. Experimentatives. A startlingly good "performance work" by a remarkable young black writer, Ellen Sebastian, entitled *Your Place is no Longer with Us*, moves a few dozen spectators, along with the small cast, from room to room, upstairs and downstairs, in the house where the drama unfolds. The San Francisco Mime Troupe, which has won important prizes here and abroad for its slashing, left-wing street theatre, has surprised us with a powerful indoor production of the Lope de Vega classic *The Uprising at Fuente Ovejuna*. Londoners will have occasion, this summer, at the international drama festival, to sample a multi-media work just unveiled here under the aegis of an extraordinary, virtually indescribable 90 minutes of mime, projections, speech and song, with a musical score ranging between rock and minimalism.

The repertory company founded by and named after Tyrone Guthrie, in Minneapolis, recently had to capitulate to harsh economic reality and abandon the repertory system - a body-blow to decentralized theatre in this country - but both San Francisco and Berkeley continue to fare much better. The American Conservatory Theatre's repertory this season has thus far given us outstanding productions of *The Chalk Garden*, *Uncle Vanya* and *Loot*, and the Berkeley Repertory Company has especially distinguished itself with the Brecht-Weill *Happy End* and *The Glass Menagerie*.

Paul Moor

Recital

Fou Ts'ong

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Faced with the need to separate the funeral march movement in Chopin's B flat minor Sonata, Op. 35, from the ceremonial associations that nowadays cling to it, Fou Ts'ong made sure that the character of the other movements related closely to it in his solo programme on Sunday. He gave grandeur to the sonata's opening movement, perhaps with the help of a few more spread chords than were absolutely good for it, and communicated a fine sense of fancy in the Scherzo.

The march itself was adumbrated with sufficient weight to ensure that it retained its central focus as the source of the poetic ideas in the previous two movements, and the consolatory trio section was played with a deliberate and affecting simplicity. If this indeed was Chopin's visionary response to the idea of death, the performance indicated that it could be contemplated with dignity, the sonata's brief and enigmatic

finale then becoming a bold dispelling of the vision.

The sonata was preceded by the first book of Debussy's *Etudes*, which were dedicated to Chopin and in which the pianist demonstrated his acute sense of harmonic character, especially in the studies involving fourths and sixths. His use of the sustaining pedal clouded the musical texture at times, but the agility of the fingering and consistent brilliance of technique in realizing the essential purpose of each study was much to be appreciated.

Earlier in the programme the pianist seemed to lose heart before the end of Schubert's A minor Sonata, D845. It began strongly, with significant pauses helping to point the contrast of expression in the opening movement and in the following theme and variations. The energetic Scherzo was not entirely spotless, however, and whether or not this upset him, his approach to the finale was somewhat wild and he allowed it to grow more erratic towards the end.

Noël Goodwin

Concert

Philharmonia / Haitink

Festival Hall/Radio 3

I am sure we have not heard the last of Brahms's *German Requiem* in this the 150th anniversary year of his birth, but it will be hard for anyone else to match the fullness and abundance of Sunday night's performance under Bernard Haitink. Here was the piece pulled out of comfortable Protestant gloom and made to sit up. But it was not an unsuitably operatic performance; rather the effect was of a seven-movement symphony, with a feeling for large-scale structure as unerring as was shown before the interval in Haydn's "Oxford" Symphony.

It seemed, too, that Mr Haitink was merely providing the opportunity for the work to say as much as it can as decisively as possible, though reflection would indicate what care he, the Philharmonia and the Philharmonia Chorus had put into tiny details of newly gauged sonority, into building slow crescendos like great sturdy waves, and above all into reconsidering the phrasing so that answer did not come too fast upon question. It was indeed an intelligent as well as a moving performance.

Among the many satisfying surprises was the awesomely bare sound at the bottom of the orchestra, not sweetened in the usual way (the choir, though, made a rare falter each time Brahms asked them to step into the abyss of bottom Fs). I liked, too, Mr Haitink's brisk, sunny walk through the middle and least happy movement, and the way he managed to trump the Last Trump.

After a ferocious climax of alarm, the choir sounding their staccatos like elastic snaps, the ensuing fugue could have been a lapse into academicism, but instead it brought a lift into a different kind of energy expenditure: the choir now nobly splended. They could also breathe hushed significances in a musical stage whisper.

The baritone soloist was Thomas Allen, who was singing with magnificent art and authority in the third movement when a frog jumped into his throat. He came back with full force later. Meanwhile, Margaret Marshall had made the soprano solo into a young, fresh song, appearing not as a sympathetic angel, which would have been inappropriate in this performance, but as an untroubled spirit of regeneration.

Paul Griffiths

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Opera
Long overdue for revival

La Gioconda
Barbican

Where to see Ponchielli's *La Gioconda* nowadays with the international cast it deserves? The Met in New York, although that house had its well-publicized troubles with the opera early on in the season just ended; San Francisco, as television has shown us; the Verona Arena, quite frequently. But London opera houses have shied away from Ponchielli's masterpiece for well over half a century. After Sunday's concert performance, which drew a full and cheering house to the Barbican, this ostracism might be reconsidered. It does not, after all, require too bold a management to measure up to the vocal and scenic demands of *La Gioconda*; if the National can create virtually the whole city of Bath for *The Rivals* then why be afraid of Ponchielli's far from sleepy Venetian lagoon?

Sunday's cast contained a trio of the biggest voices in the world, capable of sounding of filling not just the Concert Hall but the whole of the Barbican Centre. They were those of Ghena Dimitrova, Placido Domingo and Piero Cappuccilli. The qualities of Mme Dimitrova have already been reported on this page from Berlin and in this, her London debut, she proved that although the dramatic soprano is an endangered species it is certainly not yet an extinct lower register. In the last act Enzo calls *La Gioconda* a furious hyena ("furibonda iena") and with many an angry gesture from Ghena Dimitrova no one would question the description. Yet a quarter of an hour later she was ready to tackle a series of almost Donizettian runs before *La Gioconda* thrusts a



Ghena Dimitrova: a Gioconda with all the passions

dagger into her heart. Occasionally there is a sour note, rather more often a stock gesture, but this was a *Gioconda* with all the passions Ponchielli demanded. Enzo must be one of the few major nineteenth-century Italian roles Placido Domingo has yet to record. Presumably someone is now considering plugging that gap. Domingo still has the ability to raise the temperature of the house the moment he walks on to the platform. For half of Act I the conductor, Anton Guadagno, had appeared on rather remote terms with the LSO, and the LSO themselves on equally remote terms with Italian opera. Domingo changed all that.

"Cielo e mar!" pressed his technique harder than it might have done a couple of years ago, especially the dreamy opening, but Domingo at half stretch is preferable to other contemporary tenors at full stretch. Ponchielli's librettist, Tobia Gorrio (aka Arrigo Boito) did not put much flesh on Enzo, particularly at the close where he sails off with his lover to leave *La Gioconda* with her knife, but Domingo never allows him to become a Pinkerton-style cad. Piero Cappuccilli, who almost a quarter of a century ago recorded the spy Barabba with Calles, now has more of an ambassadorial than conspiratorial air. His baritone, though, still has extraordinary resonance. Cappuccilli may be happier on the west coast of Italy as Simon Boccanegra, Doge of Genoa, than ever on the Adriatic, and Bernabe's *barcarolle* in Act II lacked something in lift. But the voice is rock solid: no wrong notes from Cappuccilli.

In the face of the strength and experience of this trio the rest of the cast sounded a little pallid. Barbara Conrad (Laura) had a sturdy mezzo and flashes of temperament, especially in her duet with *La Gioconda*, but she lacks finesse. The same goes for the bass Rodney Macann (Alvise): plenty of volume but an indifference to the text. Elizabeth Bainbridge's *La Cieca* was underdramatic.

John Higgins

Sheridan Morley meets Richard O'Callaghan (below), who opens as Feste in *Twelfth Night* at Stratford tomorrow

The deep end of repertoire

"I was a bit greedy. I thought, if I was going to Stratford for the first time, I'd like to be in everything possible", accordingly Richard O'Callaghan will be spending this Warwickshire summer as Feste in *Twelfth Night*, Crammer in *Henry VIII*, one of the Dromios in *Comedy of Errors* and Lucio in *Measure for Measure*. In fact the only major Shakespeare he will not be doing is *Julius Caesar*.

"This is my first time in a repertory company, and I thought I'd like to go in at the deep end. I was only ever once with the RSC before, and that was for a Warehouse run of *TV Times*, then I joined the National, but again only for one play - the West End transfer of *Amadeus*. But mother was at Stratford for the 1976 season and she said it was really very nice." Mother is Pat Hayes, indomitable survivor of a thousand television situation comedies and also one of the finest if most underrated dramatic actresses in the business.

"I suppose acting does run in the family, though it took me a long time to come to terms with that. I'm now 43 but I've only been in the business 17 years, and I've never until now even begun to think of myself as a Shakespearean. A lot of the people I was at LAMDA with in the mid-1960s went straight off to the RSC and carried spears for two years and got so depressed at their lack of progress that they then left the theatre altogether. Perhaps that's why I've left it for so long before trying my classical luck. "My father was Valentine Brooks, who had quite a starry career in the mid-1930s, and I had two sisters, but my parents split up when I was seven. By that time my father had given up acting and become an announcer on Radio Luxembourg; he and my mother had



left all their possessions there and come home for a holiday when war broke out, so they were left with nothing, and my mother then brought us up on what she could make playing little boys in radio and going whatever else came along.

"We all joined the Interval Club in Dean Street, which was for Catholic actors, and I did a lot of amateur work there, but mother said I'd be daft to try and act for a career so I went off and tried being a farmer for ten shillings a week. That was horrible, so then I became a used-car salesman in a garage in South London, only to feel so guilty every time I sold a car that I had to give that up too. Then I went to work in Selfridges, and finally I scraped into LAMDA, where I was one of the class clowns, a vaguely likable sort of misanthrope and no more than that until in my second year a marvellous director called Adrian Brine came along and did *The Hostage*, and suddenly it all began to make sense and I knew that I could be an actor after all. Nobody was more surprised than myself, unless you count the rest of the staff at LAMDA. "From that I got straight into the Royal Court, playing in *Spring Awakening*, only there

already was an actor called Richard Brooks so that was when I went back to my Irish ancestors and became an O'Callaghan like my grandfather's people.

"Since then I've been lucky enough to get a lot of interesting work (*Bulley*, *Bofors Gun*, *Three Months Gone*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*) in among all the television, and because I've never had any children I've never really had to worry too much about money. There was one terrible time about twelve years ago when I had eight months out, but since then I've worked pretty consistently. In television I think I'm now a star, in the theatre I'm still a good second lead for things like *Bulley* and *Amadeus*.

"Mind you this season will be my first Shakespeare: I was in the Alec Guinness-Simone Signoret *Macbeth* at the Court in 1966, which someone was unkind enough to call 'Aimez-Vous Glamis?' Signoret could have been breathtaking, but she got terrified by the language and somehow her confidence never came through. The critics were totally destructive but I thought she was a wonderful, kind lady. It was though, a very unhappy company and we were working in a set that was like a sandpapered cardboard carton, so that didn't help; also nobody really gave her the go-ahead to take off so she just never did. By the end of the gloom that hung over that *Macbeth* was so terrible I refused ever to do the play again, even when the Young Vic offered me a tour of Mexico with it.

"But the joy of Stratford this summer is the range of the work: I suppose Feste might be obvious casting for me, but Crammer certainly is not and I think if I can manage that it could be very exciting."

SPECTRUM

Early in 1940, under threat of invasion, Churchill turned his thoughts to three strategically vital Irish ports which had been ceded to Dublin only two years earlier. In an extract from his new book, Robert Fisk reveals Churchill's offer of a united Ireland, and how it was rejected

Getting the Irish out of neutral

In the emotional shock of June 1940, Winston Churchill tried to withstand the effects of the European debacle with visions of defiance and generosity. When France was collapsing under the German advance, he searched for some epic device with which to rally his broken ally; and on June 16, he offered France common citizenship with Britain, urging the French government to proclaim the "indissoluble union" of the two countries. British and French would become citizens of the same nation, protected by a joint defence organization.

It was an audacious gesture, the ramifications of which were scarcely considered by the French, who, in any case, promptly turned it down. But it illustrated the extravagant way in which Churchill's mind was moving at that traumatic period. It was quite in keeping that he should, on June 21, dispatch Malcolm MacDonald to Ireland to seek a new ally with offers which also transcended the bonds of national loyalty.

MacDonald was Minister of Health in Churchill's coalition government but he was also the minister who, with Chamberlain, had been most closely involved in handing back the Royal Navy's Irish treaty ports shortly before the Second World War. Now, with the German Army on the Channel coast, he was being sent back to Ireland to persuade Eire's Prime Minister, Eamon de Valera, to lend the Irish ports back to the Navy. In return he was to make a tentative offer of Irish unity.

It was to be the beginning of an historic dialogue between the British and Irish Governments that held out, in however fragile a form, the possibility of a final British withdrawal from Ireland after hundreds of years of repression and settlement. Had these discussions reached fruition, the history of Britain and Ireland in the second half of the twentieth century would have been changed irrevocably. MacDonald met de Valera in his sparsely-furnished Dublin office and every word of MacDonald's initial and subsequent suggestions for the unity of Ireland - of such dark significance today - was underlined in his typewritten official report to the War Cabinet. His first alternative was:

"That there should be a declaration of a United Ireland in principle; the constitutional and other practical details of the Union to be worked out in due course; Ulster to remain a belligerent, Eire to remain neutral at

any rate for the time being; if both parties desired it, a Joint Defence Council to be set up at once; at the same time, in order to secure Eire's neutrality against violation by Germany, British Naval ships to be allowed into Eire ports, British troops and aeroplanes to be stationed at certain agreed points in the territory, the British Government to provide additional equipment for Eire's forces, and the Eire Government to take effective action against the Fifth Column."

De Valera rejected the suggestion. His people, he said, would regard the admission of British forces before a German invasion as an abandonment of strict neutrality, and national unity in the face of the German threat would be broken. There would be "unfortunate skirmishes" between the Irish and the British. De Valera then proposed:

"That Eire should be merged in a United Ireland which should at once become neutral; its neutrality to be guaranteed by Great Britain and the United States of America; since Britain was a belligerent, its Military and Naval forces should not take any active part in guaranteeing that neutrality, but American ships should come into the Irish ports, and perhaps American troops into Ireland, to effect this guarantee."

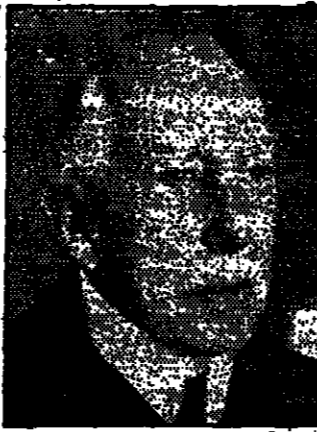
De Valera thought that some of his colleagues might be critical of this proposal - the possibility that American ships and troops could protect Ireland's neutrality was his own idea - but that the only way in which mutual difficulties could be overcome would be to establish a neutral United Ireland.

MacDonald thought this "entirely impracticable". There was, he said, no prospect that the people of Ulster would agree to desert Great Britain at the moment when her situation was more perilous than it had been for a century. The majority of the people in Northern Ireland would feel "deeply incensed" and the new state would be launched in the worst possible circumstances. Britain could not now contemplate a neutral Ulster: vital war production was being carried on there. MacDonald then threw out one more suggestion:

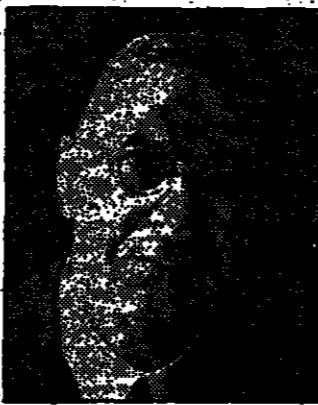
"That there should be a declaration of a United Ireland in principle, the practical details of the union to be worked out in due course; this United Ireland to become at once a belligerent on the side of the Allies."

De Valera now seemed more interested. MacDonald wrote in his report to London that "he answered that if there were not only a declaration of a United Ireland in principle, but

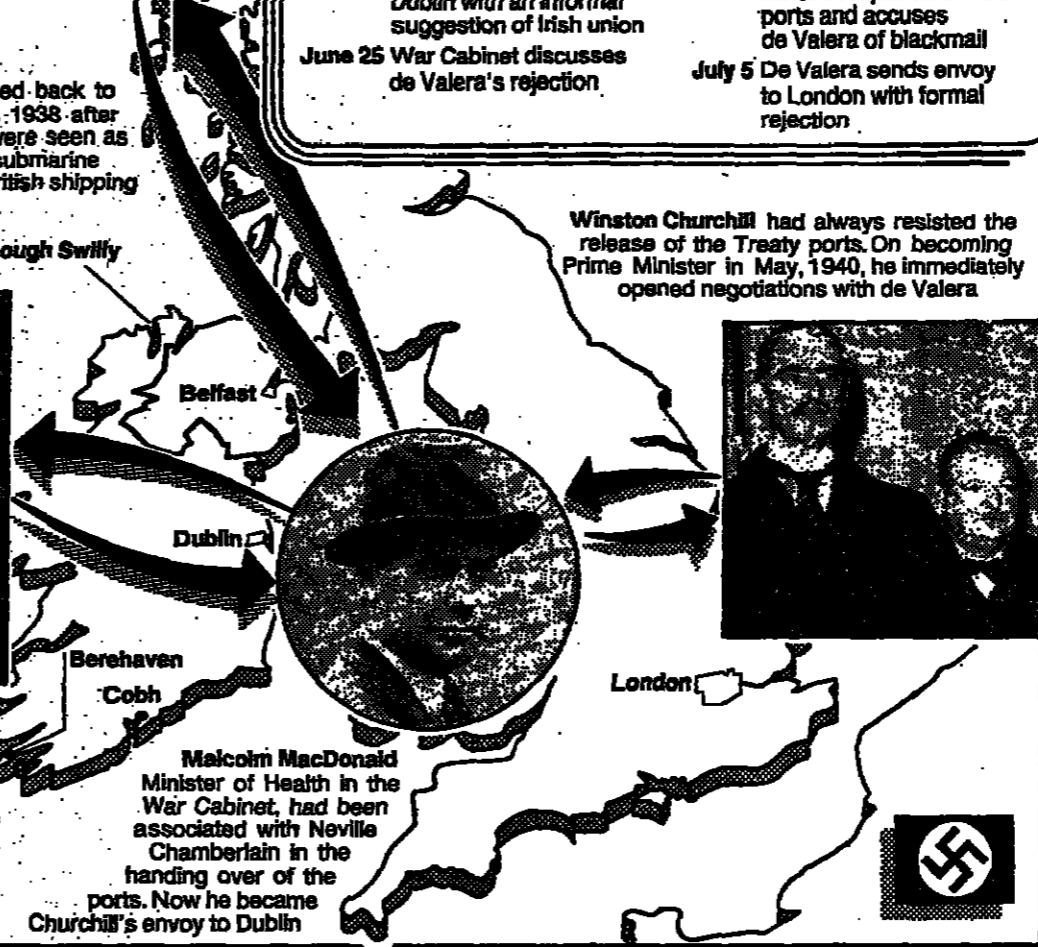
Lord Craigavon, the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, told the Stormont: "We are closing the gates, as our ancestors did at Derry"



The Treaty ports, handed back to the Eire Government in 1938 after prolonged negotiations, were seen as vital locations for anti-submarine units in the protection of British shipping



Eamon de Valera, the Taoiseach of Eire, was in favour of the unification plan so long as the United Ireland would immediately declare its neutrality



Lough Swilly

Belfast

Dublin

Berehaven

Cobh

London

Winston Churchill had always resisted the release of the Treaty ports. On becoming Prime Minister in May, 1940, he immediately opened negotiations with de Valera

Malcolm MacDonald, Minister of Health in the War Cabinet, had been associated with Neville Chamberlain in the handing over of the ports. Now he became Churchill's envoy to Dublin

also agreement upon its constitution, then the Government of Eire might agree to enter the war at once... but the constitution of a United Ireland would have to be fixed first."

MacDonald's discussions had lasted two days and the British Government considered the results on June 25.

Chamberlain presented the Cabinet with a memorandum summarizing the talks and taking up MacDonald's hint that the Irish Government might be "considerably influenced" by a promise of military equipment. Chamberlain consulted the Chiefs of Staff, who drew up a list of arms that could be given to Eire. He also listed the three tentative proposals that MacDonald had discussed in Dublin, commenting that Sir John Maffey, the British representative in Eire, believed that the third of these - a British declaration of a United Ireland in principle and the immediate entry into the war of the new state - might yet sway the Irish Cabinet.

Chamberlain then proposed that MacDonald should return to Dublin

tative of Eire and Northern Ireland to be set up immediately.

4. Eire to enter the war on the side of the United Kingdom and her allies forthwith, and, for the purposes of the Defence of Eire, the government of Eire to invite British Naval vessels to have the use of ports in Eire and British troops and aeroplanes to be stationed in such positions in Eire as may be agreed between the two Governments.

5. The Government of Eire to intern all German and Italian aliens in the country and to take any further steps necessary to suppress Fifth Column activities.

6. The United Kingdom Government to provide military equipment at once to the Government of Eire.

The decisive condition attached to this document, of course, was the acceptance of the plan - the "assent" as Chamberlain put it in his legalistic way - by Lord Craigavon's Northern Ireland Cabinet in Belfast. There can be little doubt that Chamberlain

MacDonald tried a personal approach:

"I said that I would like to speak for a few moments not as a representative of the United Kingdom Government, but as a private individual whose sympathies were on the side of the establishment of a United Ireland, and who at the same time knew British politics and the British Parliament pretty well. The present was the best opportunity that had yet offered itself of a union of the whole of Ireland being achieved. Such an opportunity might never return. If the North and the South could be united on the basis of their being joined together in the prosecution of a war in defence of the freedom of the whole of Ireland against the Nazi attack, then that union would not be broken afterwards."

MacDonald believed that "the best chance of Ireland eventually becoming united would be if the 26 Counties came fully into the war. Both parts of Ireland would then be fighting side by side; their union would be sealed by comradeship in arms. It would be very difficult to bring that unity to a sudden end at the close of the war. I knew the temper of my generation in British politics. We should not give any encouragement after the war to the revival of old, barren controversies."

Equally, however, if those who had spoken so much about liberty shrank from liberty's defence in its supreme hour of danger while Ulster fought fully for that defence, "then the differences between the 26 and the Six Counties would certainly be aggravated and enlarged, and we politicians at Westminster who had gone through the fight would never agree to handing Ulster over to Eire against the former's will."

In a secret telegram next day, MacDonald urged the British Prime Minister to reinforce Britain's offer of a United Ireland "by insertion of words which would give specific assurance on this point." When Churchill read MacDonald's telegram, he wrote in the margin next to this line: "But all contingent upon Ulster agreeing and S. Ireland coming into the war."

Craigavon, at this time, had not heard from Chamberlain for more than a week, and was clearly suspicious of the British Government's silence. On June 26, the day MacDonald returned again to Dublin, he wrote a nervous letter to Chamberlain to tell him about a conversation "a friend" had held the previous day with de Valera. According to Craigavon, de Valera told his anonymous confidant that "it would be impossible for him to abrogate the position of neutrality on account of

the strength of his 'Fifth Column'. My friend suggested that if he would declare himself as willing to come in with Britain, I would be glad to meet him anywhere at any time to talk over mutual civil defence provided no 'constitutional' questions were touched upon. Mr de Valera's answer was: 'Quite impossible'."

Craigavon did not name his informant, and would reveal only that he was an "absolutely reliable source". It was a sad attempt to counterbalance the reports which Craigavon must have known MacDonald was sending back to Chamberlain from Dublin, and the letter - with its false desire to be of assistance and its gloss of truth about de Valera - received no reply.

Nothing, however, could have equalled the sense of betrayal that Craigavon felt when he received details from Chamberlain of the Dublin negotiations. He fired back a cypher telegram to London, a proud, impatient, explosive message of a kind that no Northern Ireland minister had ever before sent to the Imperial Government:

"Am profoundly shocked and disgusted by your letter making suggestions so far reaching behind my back and without any pre-consultation with me. To such treachery to loyal Ulster I will never be a party."

Churchill's War Cabinet, however, had moved forward in their professed commitments to Irish unity. The declaration accepting the principle of a United Ireland was now strengthened by an additional clause specifying that "this declaration would take the form of a solemn undertaking that the Union is to become at an early date an accomplished fact from which there shall be no turning back."

For Britain, the surrender of Northern Ireland to Eire might be a necessary sacrifice to secure her own safety - to reinvest for a few years that 500-mile semi-circle of Naval defence - and it was one which the British Government could propose in all seriousness in the summer of 1940. If Northern Ireland was a "loyal province" to Churchill, it could appear to other British ministers as a 19-year-old anachronism whose people would not "refuse to play their part" in the unity of Ireland if this was in Britain's best interest.

In Northern Ireland itself, such considerations were unacceptable. Protestants who professed loyalty to the United Kingdom were in no mind to demonstrate their faithfulness by dismantling their Government. Craigavon's ministers had directed their energies towards the survival of their province; to seek its demise with the help of another nation was, therefore, not just an act of infidelity on Britain's part, but of "treachery" as well.

It must have been almost a relief for Chamberlain when, on July 5, he received de Valera's curt and formal rejection of Britain's offer of Irish unity. The amended proposals for the Union of Ireland had been considered by the Irish Government, wrote de Valera, but:

"The plan would commit us definitely to an immediate abandonment of our neutrality. On the other hand, it gives no guarantee that in the end we would have a United Ireland, unless indeed concessions were made to Lord Craigavon opposed to the sentiments and aspirations of the great majority of the Irish people. Our present constitution represents the limit to which we believe our people are prepared to go to meet the sentiments of the Northern Unionists, but, on the plan proposed, Lord Craigavon and his colleagues could at any stage render the whole project nugatory and prevent the desired unification by demanding concessions to which the majority of the people could not agree."

The occasion was never to occur again. Within six months, both Craigavon and Chamberlain would be dead. MacDonald, thinking that "perhaps Churchill wanted to get rid of me", was dispatched to Canada High Commissioner. Henceforth, Churchill and de Valera would face each other without intermediaries. The border - the scar of partition for those who denied its legality - would remain, and the world war would now give it a new and enduring permanence that would permit it, 30 years later, to burst upon Craigavon's descendants with a virulence of which neither Churchill nor de Valera could ever have conceived.

Tomorrow: How Hitler planned Operation Green, the invasion of Ireland

Nothing could have equalled the sense of betrayal Craigavon felt... he fired back a proud, explosive message

with a formal plan for the unification of Ireland and the entry of Eire into the war on the Allied side. It was the first substantive offer of a United Ireland to be sent to de Valera, and the British Government promised that it would "at once seek to obtain the assent... of the Government of Northern Ireland" if the plan was acceptable to the Irish Cabinet. There were six clauses:

1. A declaration to be issued by the United Kingdom Government forthwith accepting the principle of a United Ireland.
2. A joint body including representatives of the Government of Eire and the Government of Northern Ireland to be set up at once to work out the constitutional and other details of the Union of Ireland. The United Kingdom Government to give such assistance towards the work of this body as might be desired.
3. A Joint Defence Council represent-

intended to put considerable pressure upon the elderly Craigavon if he opposed the scheme. "I do not believe", Chamberlain told the British Cabinet in disingenuous fashion, "that the Ulster Government would refuse to play their part in bringing about so favourable a development."

In Dublin, MacDonald presented the British Government's offer of Irish unity to de Valera, reading the text aloud because de Valera's eyesight was so bad that he could decipher the document only with great difficulty. MacDonald argued that the declaration, which would already have received the agreement of the Northern Ireland Government, would settle the issue of unity. "It would be most dishonourable", he said, "if that declaration of policy were broken afterwards. It was unthinkable that the promise should be broken."

De Valera was still deterred by the prospect of entering the war, so

Galtieri writes: Britain's mistake in Gibraltar

As you must know by now, General Leopoldo Galtieri, who appears regularly in this column as our guest problem adviser, has been punished for writing for Moreover by a sentence of detention meted out to him by the military authorities in Argentina. We salute his courage. Here is a man who is prepared to stand up for his beliefs as readily as Lech Walesa or Mahatma Gandhi.

The bravery of the man is further shown by the fact that when we smuggled your letters in to him inside one of his medal cases, he smuggled his replies out again with the defiant words: "Publish and be damned, but send me the money quick. Here there, we his latest words, actually from inside an Argentine prison."

General, what's it like in prison? And how does it feel to be one of the "forgotten"? Bit of an irony, isn't it? - D. F. of Camden.

General Galtieri writes: My friend, I too can see the humorous side of things. One day the head of my country, the next in prison. Usually it is the other way round. But I have no complaints. My warders treat me well - I am after all superior to them all in rank and they jump to it when I give an order. I am allowed to receive visitors, go for horse rides, play a little golf - it is not so bad being in prison. And above all I am getting time to write my book.

I do not see really what Jakob Timmerman, or whatever his name was, had to complain about. There was a troublemaker. We let him out of jail, he writes a book, he gets the Nobel Peace Prize, and now he is making trouble in Israel. I have

NO MORE OVER Miles Kingdon

no doubt he will end up in prison there as well, and then accuse Mr Begin of being anti-Semitic. Mark you, his being in prison must have helped his sales, and who knows, perhaps it will help me too. I will soon be bringing out my *Moreover Book of Advice*, and then - the Nobel Prize? Let us see.

I don't know if you get the papers in prison, but there's been a bit of a fuss about the British fleet visiting Gibraltar. You know, is it going to be another Falklands situation, and all that. What do you think? A.W. of Exeter.

General Galtieri writes: What do I think? I think your Foreign Office are being very stupid, and the Spanish very hypocritical.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, Shergar has been safe and well in Argentina for several weeks; and is much enjoying the introduction to polo. We have, of course, written to your Foreign Office suggesting the exchange of Shergar with the Malvinas, but the Argentine Post Office is not what it was. Leave it another couple of weeks.

Have you read about the Cmarad Countess and the grieving families on board? I wonder if you feel remorse at all - D.N. of Gooles.

General Galtieri writes: Remorse, no. Sympathy, yes. Of course I am sympathetic to any family who lost a man in the Malvinas. After all, I lost a thousand.

I don't know if you read about Peter Sutcliffe, the so-called Yorkshire Ripper, being at-

tacked in prison. Apparently he got done over badly. I just thought you ought to, you know, look out yourself in case you got duffed up. - B.G. of Leeds.

General Galtieri writes: Thank you for the warning, but I think I have the respect of the inmates here. After all, Sutcliffe only killed a dozen people; I killed over a thousand.

Bit of a sour note to end on there, General. Haven't you got a merry quip to round things off with, have you? - M.K. of Notting Hill.

General Galtieri writes: There is quite a good story about Mrs Thatcher which is very popular with the Argentine army at the moment, but it is perhaps not suitable for a family newspaper. Meanwhile, I must go; it is our television hour and tonight it is Benny Hill, whom I find extremely dull.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 41)

ACROSS

- 1 Pebbles (6)
- 2 Wanda (4)
- 3 French school (5)
- 9 Chap (7)
- 11 Blended art (8)
- 13 Jungle king (4)
- 15 Bellowed instrument (9)
- 18 Bear measure (4)
- 19 West End street (4)
- 22 Priest's garment (7)
- 23 Salaries (5)
- 24 Strong wind (4)
- 25 Double bicycle (6)

DOWN

- 2 Speed contests (5)
- 3 Contend for (3)
- 4 Cranefly larva (13)
- 5 Shed tears (4)
- 6 Line up again (7)
- 7 Abscond with lover (5)
- 10 Unpleasantly damp (4)

SOLUTION TO No 40

ACROSS: 1 Advertisment 9 Lugworm 10 Slack 11 Ewe 13 Visa 16 Silt 17 Really 18 Duck 20 With 21 Effic 22 Lamb 23 Barn 25 Deb 28 Erica 29 Amptis 30 Unfriendly

DOWN: 2 Dog's 3 Snow 4 Time 5 Rise 6 Swahili 7 Slave driver 8 Sheeliness 12 Walla 14 Ark 15 Raffie 19 Rampion 20 Web 24 Axial 25 Dura 26 Ball 27 Azusa

THE TIMES DIARY

Joining forces

Alan Lee Williams, director-general of the English-Speaking Union...

Out of favour

Some indication of the state of preparedness for a general election...

Wendy Perrott writes from Katmandu to tell me that the Mount Annapurna Hotel in Pokhara...

Promissory note

When Sir Peter Wakefield retired last year as British Ambassador to Belgium...

Watch your step

At an earnest meeting yesterday to discuss the problems of step-parents...



'Nigel had hoped to sponsor TV-am, but apparently it's not a registered charity'

Community spirit

Further to my competition, announced yesterday, for a more imaginative design for the European flag...

Raising a storm

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has hoisted distress signals about my note on Saturday...

What is known as the 'Buzzy effect' is going to make life more and more difficult for telephone owners...

Lead: put the ban in top gear

by Des Wilson

The Government decision to accept the advice of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution...

The first is that people place a much higher priority on environmental protection than the authorities and industry realize.

The second lesson is that there are limits to the role of scientific research in policy making.

The public have now demonstrated that they expect decisions to be taken on the basis of prudence...

That said, I do not believe the issue of lead-in-petrol is completely resolved.

petrol should be available by 1990 at the latest. This really will not do.

We do not want to see the petroleum or car manufacturing industry harmed any more than is necessary.

Already, their view of the costs and problems involved contrasts sharply with that of the Royal Commission.

The author is chairman of Clear and of Friends of the Earth.

and fuel economy. On a national basis it is highly improbable that removing lead would be reflected in any higher absolute expenditure...

The Royal Commission recommends that ministers should call in the car manufacturing and oil industries to establish a timetable.

Third, while I accept that it makes sense to seek a Europe-wide initiative on this issue, and ministers should seek urgently to persuade our European partners to act together...

The author is chairman of Clear and of Friends of the Earth.

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The Tate's collection of Turners will come a step closer to a home of its own today when the Queen Mother unveils the foundation stone of the Clore Gallery.

The man behind the Tate's new work of art

James Stirling is an architect whose work provokes such paroxysms of fury among such a range of critics that he must undoubtedly be getting at least something right.

It was Stirling who designed the remarkable Cambridge University history library, in the eyes of right-wing Spectator readers, a far more unforgettable sin than any amount of developer's hit-and-run hackwork.

From the opposite end of the political spectrum, the monumentalism of Stirling's recent work has stirred some defenders of orthodox modernism to accuse him of "fascism".

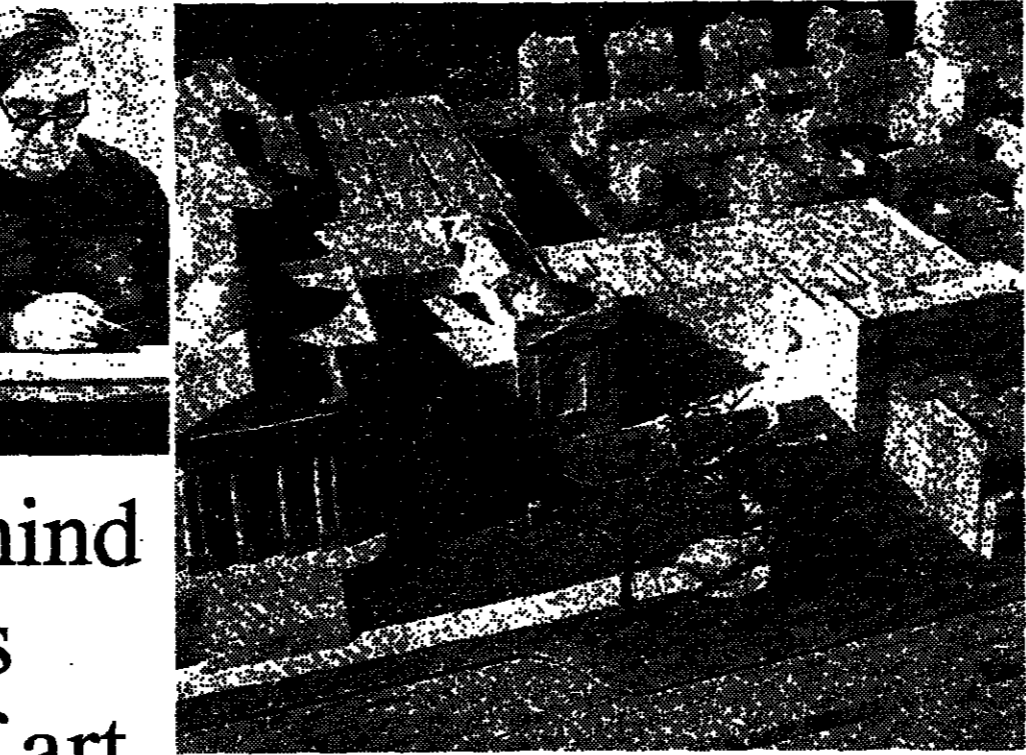
It has taken all of Stirling's highly developed sense of irony to survive. What other serious, 57-year-old professional would have the nerve to allow himself to be photographed for

Rothsay The heavy mob has been much to the fore in this sleepy burgh - scene of this year's Scottish TUC.

The cause in question - to which Mr Jenkins is a particularly late and unpublicized convert - is incomes policy.

The "New Deal" is intended as a comprehensive economic strategy but on the ticklish issue of pay it is an incomes policy in everything but name.

The Scottish TUC is the first event of the trade union conference season and a long-standing propaganda platform for the hard left.



James Stirling and a model of his Tate Gallery extension

Italy and America, he has built nothing at all at home since 1976. It is as if Graham Greene had been writing exclusively in Spanish for the past 10 years.

Especially so when Stirling's design is viewed against the dismal stone box that houses the Tate's previous extension.

Despite Stirling's enormous reputation overseas, measured by many commissions in West Germany.

shoulders. Judging by the drawings of the scheme now on show at the Institute of Contemporary Arts exhibition, Model Futures, it is more than equal to the task.

So the main facade is classically inspired, with a central bay window, a colonnade and solid masonry walls, in deference to the character of the Tate itself.

The whole building is difficult, not to say prickly and cussed, not unlike Stirling himself. It demonstrates the importance in fact of the individual over the conventions of style in the most potent fashion.

New Deal or no deal? London heavies leave the Scots on the rocks

national economic assessment "with this or any other government". Ironically, much of the "gentle persuasion" took place over glasses of Scotch at a pre-conference party...

It is a measure of the trade union leaders' obsession with the necessity to get Mrs Thatcher out of office that top-level figures from the TUC general council had descended on their hapless Scottish colleagues to pull them into line.

This is confidently expected to be the case when support for Partners in Rebuilding Britain is debated today and incomes policy tomorrow.



Arm twisting as the Scotch flowed: Moss Evans (left), David Bassett and Clive Jenkins, all arguing for the TUC-Labour plan

declaration of faith in a future Labour government. But all the frenetic conference activity has relegated to second place what is perhaps an even more important question: "Will the new deal actually win votes?"

The union moguls who came to restore order at Rothsay privately admit that they have an uphill struggle to persuade their own members, let alone the wider electorate, that an incoming Labour government would have to take a firm grip on collective bargaining.

Those who stand to lose by such an altruistic policy are most likely to be workers in secure, well-paid jobs, probably working in the private sector.

Paul Routledge Labour Editor

Geoffrey Smith

The fudge holding Labour together

There has been a new mood in the Labour Party since Bernadette. It has been brought together by a common fear of displaying the disunity which remains as deep as ever beneath the surface.

There they were shoulder to shoulder at Darlington: Mr Foot, Mr Healey, even Mr Callaghan. Mr O'Brien won the by-election by presenting the less contentious face of Labour, a very invitation to unity in himself with his encyclopaedic knowledge of local faces and local issues.

Mr Benn has been quiet. Mr Scargill has seemed less menacing since the failure of the NUM strike over the Tyneside-Lewis Merthyr mine. I suspect that this may have played a more important part than is generally appreciated in the partial recovery of Labour fortunes.

So, partly by accident and partly by design, Labour is offering a less threatening face to the public. There is an evident determination not to upset the voters this side of the election.

When such questions have been put in the past, they have usually related to the conduct of the left. Now they relate principally to the conduct of the right.

The right faces a double dilemma because it does not believe that it has either the leader or the policies best calculated to win the election.

Our allies in the Warsaw Pact justify the invasion of Czechoslovakia. An alliance whose entire military history has consisted in imposing itself by force upon its constituents is not an alliance, but an instrument of coercion.

The nature of the Warsaw Pact is such, therefore, as to expose Western Europe to the risk of a rapid and irreversible defeat in the event of a "conventional" conflict.

What the doctrine actually says is that the "socialist states" have "limited sovereignty". For in all matters which might be perceived by the Kremlin as a threat to Soviet control, the "socialist" states are subject to military coercion.

Limited sovereignty means, in effect, the absence of sovereignty. In most matters which affect social and political identity, the economic order, the legal and institutional superstructure, foreign policy and military preparedness of the "socialist" states, no decisions can be taken by the indigenous governments.

The Warsaw Pact is not a "voluntary association between sovereign states for defence purposes. It is not voluntary; its members are defended but only - as in the case of Czechoslovakia - attacked its constituents.

It is, I believe, the belief that we may have the capacity to make that discovery which has offered the major deterrent to Soviet expansion. By virtue of the Brezhnev doctrine, the Soviet Union has gained many subjects. But it has also begun to recognize that it has no real allies at all.

On the leadership the answer is fairly clear. Since Darlington the chances of a change have been much reduced. Many people in the party, by no means all of them on the right, still believe that Labour would have a much better prospect of victory under someone other than Mr Foot.

The critical choices for the right at this stage are on policy. There are some fairly senior figures who will publicly dissociate themselves from the commitments on Europe and defence in the recent policy statement.

Much will depend on the position taken by several other unions which will be holding their conferences over the next few weeks. There will not be time to reopen the basic issue at a party conference unless the election is postponed until either the very late autumn or next year.

The trouble with that is that it would require the party to fight the election with undertakings on a major issue that were contrary both to the convictions of a number of senior Labour figures and to the majority of public opinion.

The trouble with that is that it would require the party to fight the election with undertakings on a major issue that were contrary both to the convictions of a number of senior Labour figures and to the majority of public opinion.

Roger Scruton

Our allies in the Warsaw Pact

A Times leader on March 30 pointed out that the "Brezhnev doctrine" was invoked to justify the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. That is true. According to this doctrine, the leader argued, "communist governments must be expected to help each other militarily in times of crisis".

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It is, I believe, the belief that we may have the capacity to make that discovery which has offered the major deterrent to Soviet expansion. By virtue of the Brezhnev doctrine, the Soviet Union has gained many subjects. But it has also begun to recognize that it has no real allies at all.

The consequences for us should not go unnoticed. The Warsaw Pact is maintained at a level of military preparedness which far surpasses anything attained by the armies of NATO. It is well equipped, massively extended, and brought under a single, and single-minded, command.

The nature of the Warsaw Pact is such, therefore, as to expose Western Europe to the risk of a rapid and irreversible defeat in the event of a "conventional" conflict.

While a short combat would favour the Warsaw Pact, a long combat would turn the balance against it, by reason of the very truth to which the "Brezhnev doctrine" refers.

What is to be done? The first step - but it is surely only the first step - is to take seriously the suggestion by Lord Hill-Norton and others (Letters, March 29) that we begin now to restore our home defences.

The author is Editor of The Salisbury Review.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

GOOD RIDDANCE TO LEAD

Nothing that can be said about lead has done more to give it a bad name than the supposed effect of even small quantities of the stuff on the intelligence and behaviour of children. Most of the thrust to the campaign for the abolition of the common uses of lead, notably in petrol, has come from the self-accusation that we allow an avoidably lead-infested environment to surround a significant proportion of our children. It is an irony that the campaign should have become increasingly influential while its first charge has become decreasingly conclusive.

The difficulty about demonstrating a causal connexion between the levels of concentration of lead in children's bodies and their performance and behaviour is not merely the difficulty of being accurate about minute quantities of the substance and about the measurement of intelligence and behavioural disturbance. Other factors such as parental IQ or social conditions may be similarly correlated in a complex pattern in which it is not possible to identify the causal threads.

The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution concludes its consideration of this part of the evidence by saying, "In our view the accumulated evidence may indicate a causal association between the body burden of lead and psychometric indices, or the effects of confounding factors, or both. On present evidence we do not consider it possible to distinguish between these possibilities."

But where the science of the subject may admit doubt the politics of the subject knows no such hesitation. It is now past the point where the onus of proof shifts from those who challenge current practices to those who would defend them. It is no longer necessary to show that a thick urban environment exposes children to the risks considered; it is necessary to show that it does not. And the second can be done no more

conclusively than the first. The children, not the lead, get the benefit of the doubt; and when the matter is put like that, who would dare dispute it?

The report of the royal commission displays the extent of uncertainty surrounding the subject - uncertainty about the relative importance of different sources of lead pollution in the environment and of the different routes by which it approaches and enters the body, about the levels giving rise to poisoning or other harm, about the interpretation of the statistical evidence.

Constantly to stress the difficulties, the authors say, would be "an excessively negative approach." Instead we have seen our task as making the best assessment from the existing information and drawing robust conclusions. One piece of the existing information impressed them, as well it might. The average blood lead concentration in the United Kingdom is one quarter of that at which unmistakable features of lead poisoning may occur. "We are not aware of any other toxin which is so widely distributed... and which is also universally present at levels that exceed even one tenth of that at which clinical signs and symptoms may occur." The safety margin is precariously small in view of the chances of running into quite high local concentrations in the environment.

That, with the rest of its assessment, prompts the commission to open a general offensive against the practices through which man releases lead into the environment, from the most particular (boys with fishing rods closing split shot weights with their teeth) to the most general (emissions from the exhaust pipes of cars).

Petrol companies and motor manufacturers have been given a lot of stick in recent years, pluzbers and water undertakings less stick than they deserve. Nearly half the houses in the country receive a water supply

that passes at some stage through lead piping. Where the water has the property of dissolving lead a person may receive more than half his uptake of lead from that source, which is more than twice as much as he is likely to get from lead in petrol.

The remedy is obvious, replace lead piping with one of the common and satisfactory substitutes. But it costs a bit, it requires action by householders, and it involves arguable decisions about apportionment of the expense. Instead of that there is a mixture of incentive grants, surveys by water boards, and additives to the water, all of which makes for small change. The Minister's practical enthusiasm for lead clearance should be judged by what he does about water pipes as well as what he does about petrol.

There is an already established trend in the industrialized world towards reduced lead content in petrol and ultimately lead-free petrol. Oil refiners and motor manufacturers are braced for further impetus in that direction coming from their governments, public opinion is expectant, and even motoring opinion, if that can be separated out, is becoming reconciled to the extra running and capital costs (which do not look too bad - part of the pain, according to the royal commission, coming not as extra fuel consumption but in the gentler form of fuel economy forgone).

The important thing now is to get the timing of this process right, which does not mean in the shortest possible time at all costs. The object is the avoidance not of certainties but of uncertain risks. It is therefore legitimate to weigh the economic costs of the innovation required and to balance that against speed of introduction. It is also right to seek as close a synchronization as possible among the major producers and markets. The commission looks to the landmark of all new cars built for lead-free petrol by the end of this decade. That is a reasonable target.

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN COUSINS

For five days last week, in the Atlantic Hotel, Hamburg, about a hundred European and Arab scholars, writers and diplomats met to discuss "the relations between the two cultures" - not the two made famous by the late Lord Snow but those of Western Europe and of the Arab world.

Nothing very unusual about that. Conferences, seminars and colloquia on such themes have for some years been the staple diet of Middle East specialists on both sides of the Atlantic. Sometimes they are sponsored by private foundations, some times hosted by this or that Arab government. The Hamburg symposium broke new ground, however, being officially organized, as an act of policy, by the European Community on one side and the League of Arab States on the other.

It was part of a curious, perhaps unique process known as the "Euro-Arab Dialogue", launched in the aftermath of the 1973 Middle East war, when oil production cuts and the embargo on sales to the Netherlands had made Europe suddenly and uncomfortably conscious of her dependence on the Arab world. The Arabs on their side were anxious for greater European understanding for their point of view, particularly of course on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Those were not, perhaps, ideal circumstances in which to embark on a dialogue. The emotions most commonly felt towards the Arabs by ordinary Europeans were resentment and envy. European leaders were naturally sensitive to the accusation that they were giving in to "Arab blackmail" on political issues, while at the same time eager to secure their countries' access to Middle East oil, to the rapidly expanding Arab market, and to the Arab petrodollars available for investment. Consequently they sought to limit the dialogue to economic and technical subjects while the Arabs insisted that it must have a political dimension.

"Cultural cooperation" was almost the only thing that both sides could easily agree on, at least in principle, and one of the first joint projects to be launched, as long ago as 1977, was this symposium on the relationship between the two civilizations. Even so, partly because the dialogue as a whole was disrupted by the crisis between Egypt and the rest of the Arab League in 1979, it took until

1983 to bring the project to fruition.

"Civilizations" or "cultures"? "Relations" or "relationships"? Not all the problems of communication were trans-Mediterranean. The Arab participants were at an advantage in having a common language. The Europeans, having unwisely dispensed with Latin for this purpose some centuries back, stumbled over the foundations of their regional Babel. A British participant confessed himself unable to understand the title of his own paper, provided for him by a committee whose working language was apparently Double Dutch.

It seemed almost callously frivolous to be talking culture when an Arab leader, much admired by Europeans had just been shot dead in a Portuguese hotel, while an American peace plan enjoying European support had just been given the thumbs-down by the key Arab party. It may seem equally callous and frivolous to be writing about such things now, when yesterday the corpses of Arabs and Americans lay across each other in the visa section of the American embassy in Beirut.

Yet such events, while they illustrate the difficulty of dialogue, also emphasize its necessity. Part of the trouble with the Euro-Arab relationship is precisely that too often we see each other only through the prism of conflict - especially in recent years the Arab-Israeli conflict with its various ramifications. Arabs see Europeans as unrepentant crusader-colonizers and incorrigible Zionists. Europeans see Arabs as wild fanatics, always stirring up trouble and unwilling to let Jews live in peace. Neither image is without its kernel of reality, yet both distort because they leave so much out; and as they influence behaviour on both sides, they tend to be self-fulfilling.

Many participants, both European and Arab, emphasized the contribution which the Arabs had made to European civilization during the Middle Ages - the influence of Averroes on Aquinas being only the best known of many examples. An Algerian scholar, Dr Mohammed Arkoun, pointed out that Averroes himself was typical of the Islamic world of that era in his openness to ideas from outside that world, and in the rationalism of his approach. Unfortunately, he said, that

approach had been inherited more by subsequent Western culture than by subsequent Islamic culture.

Should one equate "Arab" and "Islamic"? Should one equate "Western" with "European" - or either with "West European"? Perhaps not, but one will find it very difficult to discuss culture on this grand scale without doing so. The Arabs may have had great civilizations before Islam, and Christians may have played a key role in the Arab Awakening of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. But, without the spread of Islam, most of the states in the Arab League would not be Arab at all. Present-day Western Europe may share a culture with North America and some other places, but no one can dispute that culture's European origin. Eastern Europe may rightfully belong to the same civilization but, things being what they are today, it is Western Europe that must carry the torch.

If Arab civilization is Islamic, what is European civilization? Christian, post-Christian, Judeo-Christian, secular - all were canvassed, and are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Professor Antoine Vergote, of the Catholic University of Louvain, gave a brilliant exegesis of the dialectical relationship between Christianity and secularism, arguing that Christian belief, shared by a majority, can still be a powerful and dynamic force in a secular society that "no longer believes in the establishment of a paradise of liberty and happiness through progress".

A similarly "functionalist" view of Islam was sketched by Mr Kamal Abul-Magd, an Egyptian former information minister, but he too warned that Islam can play this role only if it turns its back decisively on cultural isolation. It needs a dose of old-style secular optimism to convince oneself that that is what is happening in the Arab world at present, but with people like Mr Abul-Magd around there is still hope.

It is salutary anyway to be reminded that Arab-Islamic civilization is not something alien to us but our own branch grown from another root. As Professor Jan Brugman of the University of Leiden put it, "A Sino-European dialogue would be friendly enough, but not the same thing. Our dialogue is not between strangers, but between cousins."

Probation service pay concern

From Lord Wells-Pestell and others

Sir, We write to express our concern at the decision of the Home Secretary to cut the pay for persons starting training for the probation service in 1983. The present scale, which is dependent on age and experience, starts at £4,551 and rises to £5,529. It is to be replaced by a new scale starting at £3,988 and rising to £5,382. Every trainee will be worse off. Those most affected will be those starting on the bottom scale, which will be over £960 per annum less.

The National Association of Probation Officers has used every possible argument against this proposal. Meetings with Home Office officials and with the minister responsible have produced no change of opinion. On December 13 last a lengthy debate in the House of Lords, in which signatures of this letter and others took part, failed to make any impression on the Government.

The Home Office has stated that it believes the number of those wanting to train for the probation service is sufficiently high to enable it to reduce the pay. With very high unemployment this is a truism which might be applied to many kinds of employment, but we are unaware of any other instance of such cuts having been made.

As regards the probation service, we are very concerned about the resentment which this decision has caused among its members. We are also concerned about the prospects of attracting the right sort of person. We believe it to be very important to attract mature men and women of high quality into the service.

We are primarily concerned with the lowest starting level of £3,988 per annum. It seems to us that this is quite indefensible. We recognize the need for departments to save money, but the saving at the lowest starting point will be only £90,000 per annum. We cannot feel that such chicanery is in the best interests of the community, particularly at a time when the Home Secretary is about to introduce new forms of treatment for offenders, which probation officers will be required to undertake.

We regret that the National Association of Probation Officers feel that there is now no other alternative for them than to take industrial action. We hope it will not come to that and that the Home Secretary will think again.

Yours faithfully,
WELLS-PESTELL,
ALLAN OF ABBEYDALE,
DONALDSON,
ELVSTAN-MORGAN,
JANE EWART-BIGGS,
JOHN HUNT,
WIGODER,
House of Lords,
April 13.

Animal experiments

From Mr Clive Hollands

Sir, Your report on the joint proposals submitted to the Home Secretary on animal experiments by the British Veterinary Association, the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation and the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (April 15) did not refer to the most important element in the proposals which rely almost entirely for their effectiveness on the "pain clause" which governs what may be permitted in terms of the infliction of suffering in relation to the purpose of the experiment.

This "pain clause", which is the absolute minimum acceptable in new legislation, would permit the infliction of pain, suffering or distress of no more than trivial intensity and momentary duration unless the procedure was judged to be of exceptional importance in meeting the essential needs of man or animals.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE HOLLANDS, Secretary, Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation, 10 Queen's Gate, London, SW7, April 15.

Post-coital pill

From Mr P. L. C. Diggory

Sir, There is now pretty firm medical evidence that the primary, though probably not only, mode of action of the intra-uterine device takes place after fertilisation. This is most certainly true of hormone impregnated intra-uterine devices which enjoy extensive use worldwide but not greatly in this country.

It is now, therefore, a matter of urgency that doctors should be assured that the use of these devices does not constitute a breach of the law.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DIGGORY,
Kingston and Esher Health Authority,
Kingston Hospital,
Wolverton Avenue,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Aid to Third World

From Mr John R. Clapperton

Sir, Professors Bauer and Yamey (feature, April 11) may possibly be faint in their criticisms of the aid programme to the Third World.

Bearing in mind that one person in four in the world suffers from malnutrition, while there is a surplus of food in the developed world, we have what amounts to mismanagement on a global scale. I expected to see at least one positive alternative suggestion as to how this problem could be solved.

I looked in vain. Every suggestion made was negative.

What should we do? Let the undernourished starve?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. CLAPPERTON,
2 Pearce Grove,
Edinburgh,
April 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Film-making a government concern

From Mr James Quinn

Sir, Mr David Hewson, in his otherwise perceptive article (April 13), remarks that "no one has yet explained adequately why the cinema industry is more deserving of favourable treatment than, say, makers of ball bearings..."

Comparisons, to be of value, should compare like with like. It may well be that the ball-bearing industry makes a "better" employer than most "people", but whether true or untrue it is this more important to Britain than the impact of its films - in cinemas and on television - on the minds of millions throughout the world?

Furthermore, trade follows the flag, it is said. Thus the promotion of our image abroad is of paramount importance on several counts. The Foreign Office recognized this truth when it set up the National Panel for Film (now in 1966 under Professor (now Lord) Briggs to promote the best of British short films at international film festivals. The work of the panel has now been taken over by another voluntary body under the aegis of the British Council.

In creating its new advisory committee, whose brief includes television and video as well as films, the council has made plain its belief that in the "contest for influence" - to borrow one of its own phrases - the moving image has a vital part to play in exporting Britain. It is to be noted that the governments of virtually all European countries have long accepted that their film industries deserve favourable treatment for similar reasons.

In the context of the immense international publicity and debate surrounding *Gandhi*, the extraordinary success of *Chariots of Fire* and the diplomatic furore attending *Death of a Princess* not too long ago, it is hard to comprehend the need to argue yet again that the production of good British films must be the concern of government for reasons which go far beyond the issues of employment, steady or casual.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES QUINN,
Crested Cottage,
108 Marine Parade,
Brighton, Sussex,
April 13.

Filling the school void

From Mrs Anne Mitchell

Sir, I find in the otherwise commonsensical editorial, "Filling the school void" (April 12) some disturbing assumptions. Chief of these is the assertion that "a gifted teacher... can work minor miracles with a big class crammed into a Nissen hut with a blackboard and chalk."

This not only displays a romantic naivety, but gives ammunition to Sir Kenneth Joseph and the others who maintain that all teachers ought to "work minor miracles", i.e. achieve good examination results, in all classes, regardless of the size and conditions.

Of course there are "gifted" teachers who can do good work in bad conditions, but most teachers, being only conscientious, hardworking and dedicated, find that they can work better in good conditions, with

Desirable residence

From Sir Anthony Lousada

Sir, When chairman of the advisory committee of the Government Art Collection I was concerned with the provision of works of art for the Government estate at home and abroad. I suggest that the Public Accounts Committee, as reported in your feature, "The Empire strikes back for the good life" (April 6) has misunderstood the purpose of an ambassador's residence.

Just as 10 Downing Street represents Britain at home, so the embassies represent Britain abroad. The style and scale of the accommodation are not for the ambassador as an individual. His role is more akin to a resident caretaker/hotelier than to a wealthy tenant/landowner. Meanwhile he has to project an image of Britain and in competition with other embassies win the respect of the host country. In a world ultra-sensitive to the nuances of style, influence is acquired and maintained by tone.

We should be proud that Eden Hall is "the acme of elegance" rather than a dowdy, standardised housing unit of 80 many square metres. How can we expect our ambassadors successfully to promote British goods, expertise, culture and political influence abroad if we take away their prestige premises and give them mere accommodation addresses?

Whatever modest standards of accommodation have been agreed for new embassies, it would be as counter-productive to sell off our national assets abroad as it would be to sell off 10 Downing Street and put the Prime Minister in a pied-à-terre in Pimlico.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LOUSADA,
The Tides,
Chiswick Mall, W4.

Powys review

From Professor G. R. Wilson Knight

Sir, In his review of *The Powys Brothers* (April 7) Mr Byron Rogers highlights for his purpose a selection of biographical facts, drawn from Mr Graves' comprehensive survey. Tolstoy's account of the events in King Lear in support of his aspersions on Shakespeare comes to

Europe's interests in arms control

From Dr Hugh Macdonald

Sir, Sir Clive Ross (letter, April 11), Lawrence Freedman (feature, March 19) and Sir Martin Ryle (letter, March 30) identify contradictions in the Soviet negotiating position at the INF talks in Geneva. But it is illogical to dilate upon Soviet obfuscation while refusing to recognise the same propensity on the Western side.

The vital questions about this infeasibility are both sides, but here particularly the Soviet, are it justifiable, in what order might it be unravelled; and whose security will be most hurt by its continuance?

The SS20 and other modern Soviet intermediate nuclear systems were developed to provide flexible nuclear options, to counter American, British, French and Chinese nuclear capabilities previously deployed. Soviet strategic nuclear systems decidedly lacked - and continue to lack - the requisite technical and geographic flexibility.

The subsequent arms control issues can be interminably twisted by statistics. What matters most is that there is neither a mutually acceptable parity, as the Russians allege, nor a six-against-one disadvantage for the West, as the American assert. Hence the basis of understanding required for an agreement does not presently exist, and both sides are justified in proceeding with whatever deployments they deem desirable.

If this kind of unilateralism is thought desirable, in the common good, then some serious initial effort to avoid the impasse must come from the West, for three reasons.

It was Nato which proposed to link its deployment to arms control, but which has yet to make a clear, reasonable, offer that will satisfy the common good: the zero option - regrettably - was intended only as propaganda; the famous "walk in the woods" talk between Mr Nitze and Mr Kvitinsky proved too divisive in Washington to be pursued further; and President Reagan's latest "interim offer" is both vague and one-sided.

While the West condemns continued Soviet SS20 deployments, its own planning for the deployment of seven significant nuclear or nuclear capable systems in and around the European region is proceeding. Not to be able to recognise that, whatever their different functional and national purposes, these appear to the Russians as "strategic", in just the same sense as Soviet missiles in Cuba did to Americans in 1962, or SS20s to West Europeans today, is absurd and perverse.

This is all the more so because the losers in a protracted Soviet-American nuclear arms race in this region will be the governments and societies of Europe. Free as we are in Western Europe to think and recommend as we see fit, it is not past time to cease irrelevant provincial squabbles between dovish and hawkish views of how to treat the Russians, and realise that extremely difficult but perhaps irretrievable opportunities to improve the terms of East-West security are - for the moment - open to European influences and interests?

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MACDONALD,
As from the London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.

Stillborn babies

From Lord Norwich

Sir, If as the anti-abortion lobby assures us, human life begins at the moment of conception, there certainly seems no reason to withhold baptism from a child *in utero*. History provides instances not only - as your correspondent, Miss Catherine Morton, points out today (April 11) - of baptism in such circumstances, but of at least one coronation.

Your readers will doubtless recall Gibbon's account of the coronation of King Shapur II of Persia in AD 309:

The wife of Hormozd, pregnant at the time of her husband's death, and the uncertainty of the sex, as well as of the event, excited the ambitious hopes of the prince of the house of Sassan. The apprehensions of civil war were at length removed by the positive assurance of the Magi that the widow of Hormozd had conceived, and would safely produce a son.

Obedient to the voice of superstition, the Persians prepared, without delay, the ceremony of his coronation. A royal bed, on which the queen lay in state, was exhibited in the midst of the palace; the dissonant cry was heard which might be supposed to conceal the future heir of Artaxerxes, and the prostrate satraps adore the majesty of their favourable and insensate sovereign.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN JULIUS NORWICH,
Flat No. 8,
38 Courtfield Gardens, SW5,
April 11.

Flight of fancy

From Mr W. G. Teagle

Sir, Collared doves (letter, April 12) have also provided anachronistic background noises for the televised works of Dickens, Trollope and Chekhov. One might expect to hear them in present-day Ambridge of course, but there they would have to compete with all those abnormal blackbirds, chaffinches and nightingales that insist on singing well into the summer, when other members of their species are resting their voices.

The BBC has a splendid Natural History Unit. Has it also got a department which specialises in Unnatural History?

Yours faithfully,
W. G. TEAGLE,
41 Bell Street,
Hastings,
Sussex,
Dorset,
April 13.

Crumbling sewers

From Mr John Whitehead

Sir, You report (April 7, page 3) under the headline "Lorries speed motorway decay" that "Britain's motorways are crumbling faster than ever and the Department of Transport admits that heavy lorries are the main culprits."

Not only motorways. The pressure and vibration of heavy lorries are the reasons for the serious, not to say dangerous, condition of many sewers. You say that about 25 per cent of heavy lorry mileage is on motorways, and therefore about 75 per cent must be on ordinary roads, and over the sewers under them. The damage will increase dramatically since the maximum lorry weight has just been raised to 38 tonnes.

Surely the Government should think again about its intention that the vast cost of replacing the sewers should be met by the general populace through water rates? This is an expense which ought to be met by the owners of the lorries through an addition to taxation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHITEHEAD,
51 Owstone Road,
Cambridge,
April 12.

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41 Bell Street,
Hastings,
Sussex,
Dorset,
April 13.

Volcker breaks with White House policy

Fed chairman recommends modest intervention to control dollar

From Bailey Mervis, Washington

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, in a break with Reagan philosophy has recommended a policy of modest intervention in currency markets to control the erratic dollar.

Mr Volcker reportedly opposed the idea of a new Bretton Woods conference to revise the monetary system and calls by conservatives for a return to a system of fixed exchange rates.

Economic Advisers, reiterated the position that market forces should be the sole determinant of exchange rates.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1A 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.0 down 0.5 FT 100: 82.19 up 0.10 FT All Shares: 441.52 up 2.0

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5615 up 1.35 cents Index 83.8 up 0.9 DM 3.8325 Fr 11.51 Yen 371.75

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2

PRICE CHANGES

T S L Therm. Sys. 58p up 15p Johnson & F.S. 10p up 2p Auto. Prod. 35p up 6p

TODAY

Interim: Stewart Nairn, Finalist: Aberthaw Cement, Alva Inv Tet, Bank of Scotland

UDS seeking 135p a share

There were indications last night that the board of UDS, the steel group, would be prepared to change its mind and recommend the takeover terms offered by Hanson Trust

£35m ISSUE: Applications open on Thursday for an issue of £35 million of City of Bristol 11 1/2 per cent red stock 2008 at 98.

Market report, page 22 INDUSTRIAL: Government approval has been given for the English Industrial Estates Corporation to spend £27m on new industrial and commercial projects in assisted areas within England during 1983-4.

Wall St stocks turn lower

New York (AP Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks turned lower. The Dow Jones Industrial average was off about 14 points compared with its early gain of 11.

Losers moved ahead of advances by about 50 issues. Trading was active. Mr Gene Jay Seagle, director of Technical Research for Herzfeld & Stern, said: "There are enough doubting Thomases around to keep the market in check."

Oil price cut 'a success'

The danger of an oil price war is over, leading Arab oil ministers declared yesterday as Britain was once again drawn into the sensitive politics of oil diplomacy.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, told a Bahrain news agency that last month's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreement to cut prices by \$5 a barrel had proved to be a 100 per cent success in averting a collapse in world oil prices.

In London, meanwhile, a meeting of Opec's key market monitoring committee ended yesterday with ministers declaring that Opec's efforts to prevent further price cuts by withholding production were also proving successful.

EEC ministers fail to agree size of cut

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg The need for a cut in minimum export credit rates between the big industrialized countries and the rest of the world was agreed by the 10 finance ministers of the EEC who met in Luxembourg yesterday.

Protest over Fraser board circular

Another row erupted yesterday between Lonrho and the House of Fraser over a circular from Lonrho advising shareholders of the stores group to support a demerger of Harrods.

The circular, issued by Lonrho's two representatives on the House of Fraser board and carrying the stores group's letterhead, was immediately denounced by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser chairman.

Sotheby's takeover 'by May'

General Felt Industries will own Sotheby's Parke Bernet, the fine art auctioneer, by the middle of May, Mr Stephen Swid, of General Felt, said yesterday.

Call for cheaper export credits

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Insurance companies optimistic

Two leading composite insurance companies - Commercial Union and Royal Insurance, expect to improve their operating results this year after last year's huge increases in underwriting losses.

Tilling chief hits 'opportunists'

Sir Patrick Tilling, chief executive of Thomas Tilling, yesterday called the £600m takeover bid for his company by BTR "grossly inadequate" and "blatantly opportunistic."

£60m John Brown order

Britain's depressed engineering industry received a fillip yesterday with news that John Brown Engineering has beaten fierce international competition to secure a £60m power station contract for the Far East.

Volcker: private speech

Administration has stuck to it, even in the face of pressure from Europe and Japan to intervene more often.

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CITY OF BRISTOL ISSUE OF £35,000,000 CITY OF BRISTOL 11 1/2 per cent Redeemable Stock 2008. Application form with details of terms, interest, and application procedures.

Marketing and advertising: Torin Douglas

High ratings reward as agencies' dynamism charms the City

Saatchi & Saatchi, advertising agents to the Conservative Party, British Airways and many of Britain's largest consumer goods companies, has produced many successful campaigns. But perhaps its most difficult image-boosting job has been the one to persuade the City of the financial merits of the advertising business.

Before Saatchi and the other high-flying ad agency, Geers Gross, came along, the City's rating of the advertising business was about as low as it could be. Now ad agencies and other creative companies in the design and public relations fields have become fashionable stocks, with price/earnings ratios of 20 or more. Suddenly the advertising world is looking to the City for finance and security, instead of selling out to American or European groups.

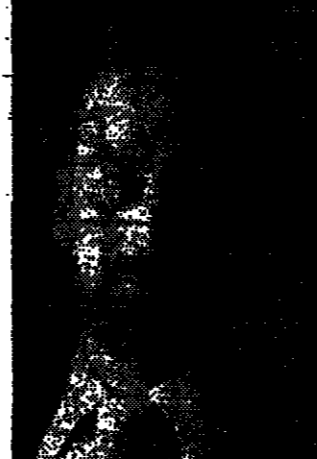
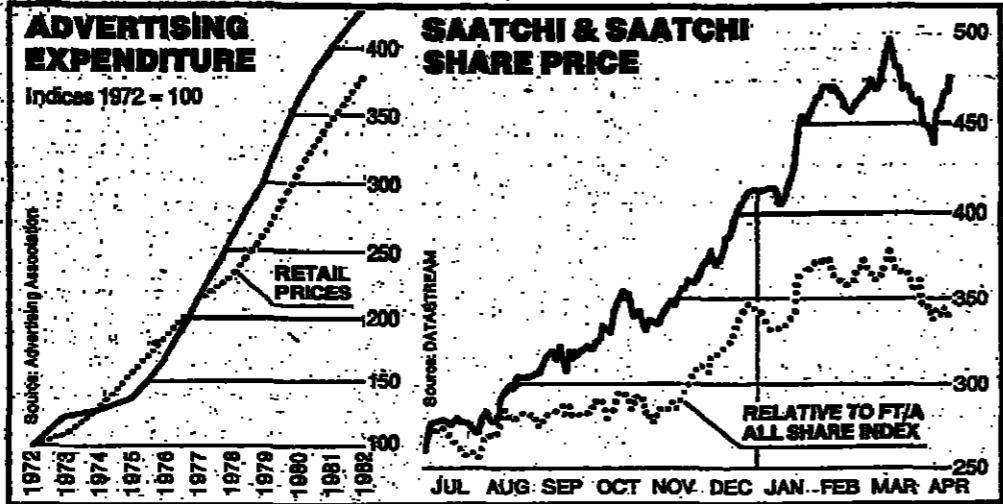
In January, the bright young agency Wight Collins Rutherford Scott entered the United Securities Market, in the process boosting the price of Saatchi and Geers' gross shares to their highest point of the year, as attention focused on the growth in the ad business. Now Boase Massimi Pollitt, one of the most highly regarded agencies with clients such as Courage, Cadbury Schweppes, Quaker Oats and Gillette, has announced plans to seek a full listing on the Stock Exchange.

Boase will be the first agency to go fully public since 1969, the year after it was set up as a breakaway from the American-owned Fritchard Wood agency. Since then it has built up an enviable reputation for its entertaining and effective television commercials, the Cadbury Smash Martians and the "Gercha". Courage campaigns were its work.

Its turnover has grown from £800,000 in its first year to £37m last year and its pretax profits last year were £790,000, suggesting that it could be valued at £12m or more. Seventy of its 155 staff own shares in the company.

Mr Martin Boase, the chairman, is in no doubt about the debt the advertising business owes Saatchi & Saatchi. "I think Maurice Saatchi has done a magnificent job in educating the City about advertising," he says. "He has managed to explode a number of myths that were prevalent - the belief that clients are constantly walking in and out of the door, that accounts are tied up individually, executives will follow them around from agency to agency, and so on."

"He has underlined the fact that the top agencies are stable companies and that the agencies in the top 20 have not changed that much over the years. He has also demonstrated to the



Martin Boase: "Top agencies are stable"

City that advertising expenditure has held up remarkably well during the recession.

This last factor is as crucial as any in explaining the City's change of attitude to advertising, not least because it has helped to ensure that Saatchi's profits have grown regularly for the last 12 years, despite the recession. They reached £2.5m last year. Advertising expenditure grew in real terms last year

Before Saatchi, the City's rating of advertising was about as low as it could be

by 3 per cent and the latest Advertising Association economic forecast is for real growth of 5 per cent this year and 7 per cent next year.

Mr Bill Seward of Phillips and Drew stockbrokers says: "The businesses that the City thought were solid, with plenty of assets, such as engineering and manufacturing firms, have been seen to have feet of clay during the last recession, whereas advertising, which was regarded as not entirely serious, volatile and, the first thing to be cut in hard times, has been

seen to prosper." It's all been turned on its head.

"Agencies used to have a price/earnings ratio of around three-quarters of the average. Now they are seen as premium shares."

Mr Michael Waterson, the director of research at the Advertising Association, says the change in attitude towards advertising is not confined to the City. "Marketing is now recognised as being far more important, which is why advertising survived the recession so well. Many companies really learned a lesson from the 1974 slump when they cut their advertising budgets and found that their competitors, who maintained their spending, gained market share at their expense."

"However, the fundamental reason why the recession has had little impact on display advertising is that consumer expenditure has remained virtually stable throughout. It is sometimes difficult to believe that the worst recession that most people under pension age can remember has actually had an almost negligible effect on consumer spending, but this is nevertheless so."

Mr Seward and Mr Waterson agree that Saatchi & Saatchi is largely responsible for getting this message across to the City, mainly through its annual

report, which each year reviews the marketing and advertising business and puts it into its economic context with great flair and thoroughness, explaining the importance of creating long-term brands and examining the implications for worldwide marketing of technological developments such as satellite and cable television.

Nevertheless, as with most marketing successes, it is not merely the presentation of the advertising business that has changed, but the product itself. Advertising agencies, by and large, are far better managed now than they were at the start of the 1970s. The problems that some of the larger, publicly-quoted agencies met then served as an object lesson for the rest of the business. It was little wonder in those days that the City had a sceptical view of advertising.

Long-established public companies such as Bensons and Dorlands found themselves the targets of bids from companies anxious not for their advertising interests but their property. In a hectic few months in 1971, Dorlands was bought by John Bentley's Barclay Securities and sold again, minus the property, to Garroff Advertising, while Bensons ended up in the arms of the American agency Ogilvy & Mather, with its property in

it has taken until now for agencies to brave the City path again - Saatchi became a public company almost by accident as a result of its takeover of the already quoted Garland-Compton agency in 1975 - and it is a measure of the work that Saatchi and Geers Gross have done in recent years that those traumatic experiences are now largely forgotten. Pension funds now own a third of Saatchi shares.

Nevertheless, there are those who believe that the advertising boom cannot go on for ever and that it will only take one setback for the City to look anew at these glittering stocks.

Mr Keith Shepherd of Hoare Govett says: "They have got pretty fancy ratings which they've justified to date, but I wouldn't pin high hopes on an inevitable growth. There is a limited amount of resource that manufacturers can put into advertising."

It is no coincidence that both Saatchi and Geers Gross are looking overseas for growth. Geers Gross was the first into the United States in 1978 and has since grown further by acquisition. Last year Saatchi bought the Compton International network (which had links with Garland Compton) and catapulted itself into the list of the world's top 10 agencies, with offices in 37 countries and a worldwide turnover of approximately \$1,300m (£849m).

Whether Boase Massimi Pollitt and Wight Collins Rutherford Scott can match the performance of Saatchi and Geers Gross remains to be seen, but their decision to go public has inspired a number of other agencies to consider the idea.

Mr Boase hopes others will follow. "It would be wonderful if we could develop an advertising sector, it would improve the City's knowledge of our business even further" - but he is under no illusions about the pressures that going public imposes.

"Public scrutiny is not something we're afraid of," he says. "With agencies of our maturity of management - our top six directors have been here for 10 years - and the spread and balance of our business it can do nothing but good. That's why we've gone for a full listing and not for the USM."

Other agencies may feel nevertheless that the need for inexorable profits growth is a distracting influence on the business of running the company, making financial requirements of overriding importance. What is certain is that a great many more agency managements are considering the idea.

Once regarded as not entirely serious, agencies are now seen as premium shares

which had set the ad business alight in the 1960s and went public in 1969, at around the same time as Geers Gross.

Kimpher, as it became known, bought a number of advertising agencies and grew to a peak turnover of £26m in 1974, but from there it slipped. After a number of attempts to revitalize the company it was sold in 1977 to the Morrison and Jones International the Guinness banking subsidiary. The individual agencies in the group have since been sold off. It was little wonder then that

Financial notebook

Money services without tiers

A great deal has been written about the impact of technology on the future of the market for financial services. It is widely agreed that the dividing lines between the different types of financial institutions will increasingly be blurred, but there is less agreement on the form that will emerge.

In my view, developments over the next decade are likely to be somewhat different for each of three layers of the market, but one comment is of general application. People are not interested in technology as such; they are interested in something that will make life simpler for them. A person needs a wide range of financial services - short term and long-term savings, life assurance, protection, money transmission, short-term loans, and a mortgage.

While people may enjoy shopping for food and clothing, they do not enjoy shopping around for financial services; they are confused about where to go for what and how to decide which product is best. The key to attracting customer loyalty for financial services is, therefore, to package them in a way which will make life simpler for the customer.

The first layer of the market consists of those adults who do not yet have a bank account. These people have traditionally been paid in cash and they are in no hurry to change over to the cashless society.

The phenomenal growth of the building societies over the past 20 years has been built up largely upon the increasing affluence of this group and I would expect the building societies to hold on to their dominant position as they start to extend a wider range of services - such as the Abbey National Chequesave - to their customers. For this important sector of the market, the building society branch may well grow into a financial supermarket.

The second layer consists of the customers of the clearing banks. Most of the banking groups already offer a complete range of financial services, ranging from insurance broking to estate agency, yet few people think of buying all the financial services from the

group with which they bank; for the simple reason that these various services are not brought together in a way which makes life simpler and more convenient for their customers; why buy unit trusts from your bank's group if they do not make it easier for you to buy and hold their unit trusts than someone else's?

The challenge for the banks is to make their customers feel that the whole range of services in the group is conveniently available to them, preferably through people who understand their particular problems and needs.

The third layer (to whom directing its main attention in seeking to develop an integrated financial service) is known in the trade as the gold card market, in recognition of American Express' success in this field.

These people are interested in a particularly wide range of services including a share portfolio, but tend to be no better at organizing their financial affairs - indeed, the complexity of their finances often leads to paralysis in decision making and relative chaos in record-keeping. Once again the key to building up customer loyalty lies in making life simpler for them.

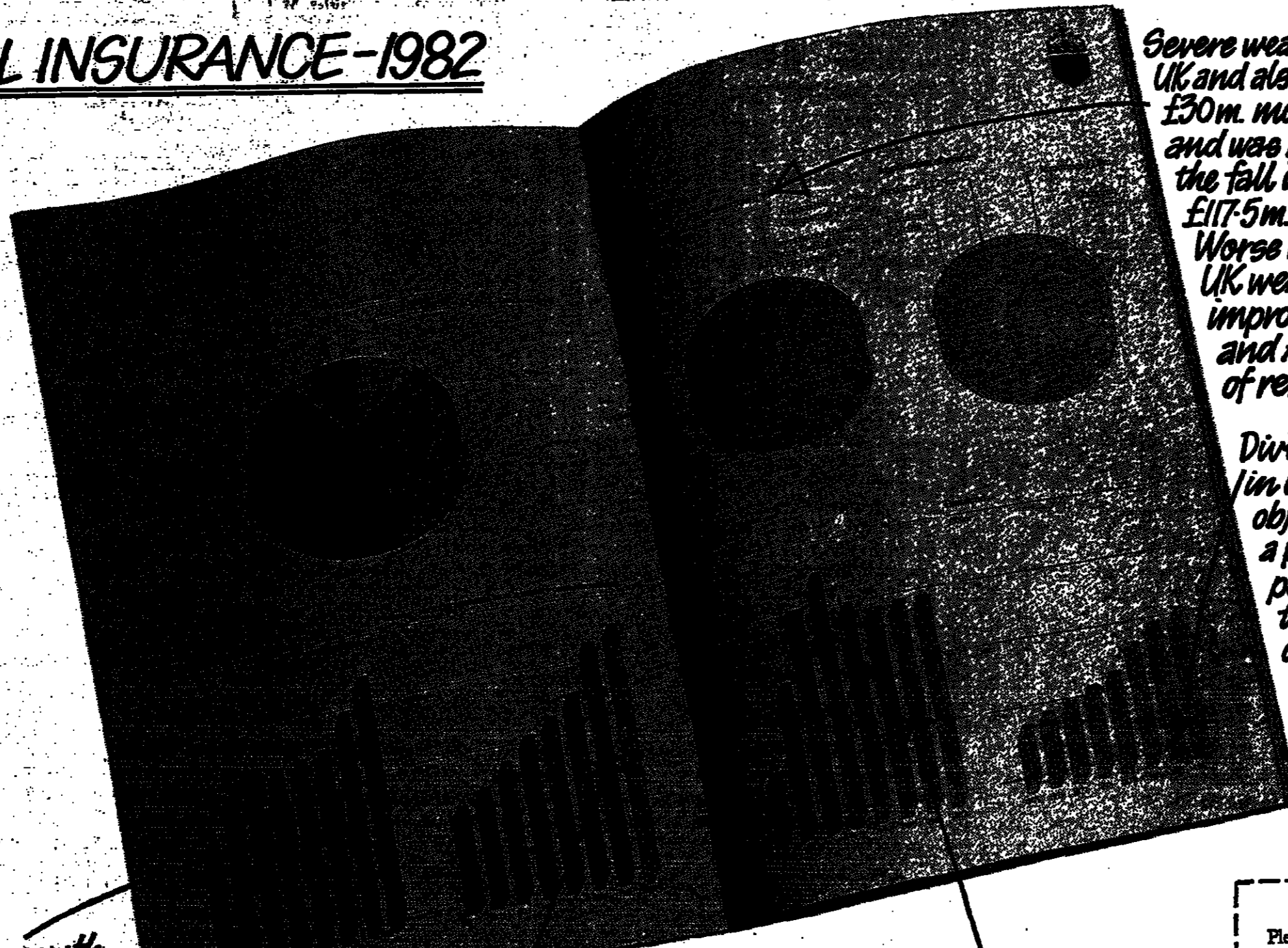
In my view, there are two elements in the solution. The first is the existence of a single person who can either offer advice to the customer on any of his needs or shepherd him to someone else in the group who has the expertise relating to the particular need. The second is an integrated computer system that will pull together the various threads of the customer's financial life, organizing his cash resources in the most efficient way and preparing a regular summary which gives him a clear picture of his affairs.

Providing this service will call for considerable resources of training, management and administration, but the benefit to the "gold card" customer and the group that provides the services should be substantial.

Mark Weinberg

The author is deputy chairman of Hambro Life Assurance.

ROYAL INSURANCE-1982



Severe weather, particularly in the UK and also in the US, cost some £30m. more overall than in 1981 and was largely responsible for the fall in pre-tax profit from £117.5m. to £96.5m. Worse results in the US and UK were partially offset by improvements in Canada and Australia as a result of remedial action.

Dividend increase of 5% is in line with our declared objective of maintaining a progressive dividend policy whilst at the same time ensuring that over a period sufficient earnings are retained to support the growth of business.

US premium growth of 12% improved our market share for the second successive year. In the UK, growth of 9% was satisfactory against the background of current economic conditions.

Important developments for Royal Life in the UK in 1982 - our entry into unit linked business and the establishment of a direct sales force - will serve us well in the years to come.

Profit after tax was slightly higher at £72.9m.



Please send me a copy of the Report & Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1982.

Name _____

Address _____

To: The Secretary, Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

Banks in quandary over Saudi deficit

By Michael Prest

An admission by Mr Mohamed Abal-Khail, the Saudi Arabian finance minister, that the kingdom is likely to run a current account deficit this financial year as well as the announced budget deficit had prompted speculation about how the shortfalls will be funded.

Banks throughout the world are wondering whether they will compete for the mandate to raise a loan for Saudi Arabia, while the Saudis are withdrawing deposits.

Mr Abal-Khail said at the weekend that the kingdom did not intend to borrow.

The Saudi Government hopes that a recovery of world economic recovery, including of stocks, and several fluctuations will raise demand.

Mr Abal-Khail said that total Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries production could go up from about 16 million barrels a day now to 19 million barrels a day towards the end of the calendar year.

One factor clearly working in Saudi Arabia's favour is the lower rate of import price inflation. The success of most of the kingdom's main industrial suppliers in reducing their domestic rate of price increases, allied with cut-throat competition for Saudi contracts, could lead to import bills lower than expected.

But whatever the eventual combination of events bankers are sure that Saudi Arabia will not start withdrawing deposits until late in its financial year.

It makes sense to delay payments while earning interest and capital appreciation on the kingdom's external assets of \$160,000m for as long as possible.

Kingdom needs to export about 6 million barrels of oil a day at the present price of \$29 a barrel to cover development and other costs.

Last year's average was 5.6m barrels a day and the March figure was a mere 3.5 million barrels a day.

But there is a reasonable chance that output and exports will rise later in the year. The Saudi Government hopes that a recovery of world economic recovery, including of stocks, and several fluctuations will raise demand.

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Currys' earnings up with easier credit

Currys Year to 26.1.83
Year to 26.1.83
Year to 26.1.83
Year to 26.1.83

Currys figures for 1982 show how much of a boost was given to the credit business by easier hire purchase terms and lower interest rates.

Currys is not certain of the level of margins this year, although the company says that sales are usually higher.

Currys has been increasing its square footage, both through store openings - there were 20 new trading outlets last year - and re-locations into larger premises, of which there were 18.

These new developments in the rental and hire purchase sectors with investment in larger selling areas pushed up net borrowing to £9m.

The company says that margins were tight during the year, although the volume

increase was high, because of expansions of market shares.

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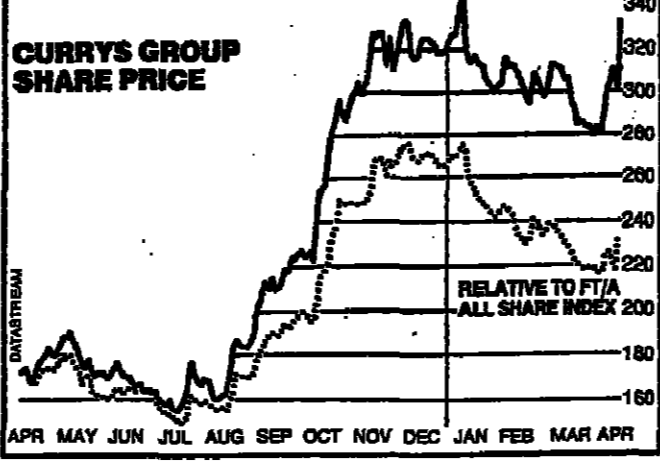
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Currys Group Share Price
Year to 26.1.83
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year fall, after profits had been marginally higher at the halfway stage. Mr D C A Bramall, the chairman, whose family interests own more than a quarter of the company, blames lower margins on new and used vehicle sales and the start-up costs of opening a Vauxhall/Bedford dealership in Sheffield in the middle of the year.

Since the relaxation of hire purchase controls last autumn, the market has generally grown more buoyant and Bramall says this has improved profits on used vehicles in particular.

The mainstay of Bramall's business is its Ford dealerships which, Sierra permitting, should keep it well in the hunt as the vehicle trade moves ahead. Its main problem is being centred in the harder-hit North of England.

Profits should certainly rise again this year. The company has balance sheet assets worth as much as the share price and reports a £180,000 revaluation surplus which will not be incorporated. The high dividend cover does not help the shares in a sector where yield counts, but they look good value at less than eight times earnings.

With motor registrations moving from bad times to new peaks this year, shares in motor dealers could prove more interesting.

C D Bramall has a sound record compared with some, with profits rising without interruption from less than £1m in 1977 to more than £2m in the company's basis in 1981. That record was dented last year by an eight per cent fall

to buy Tom's Foods, a snack foods business, from General Mills for £140m. This, it says, fulfils two objectives - a product and geographical expansion.

The deal will initially be financed through a seven-year loan which will be rolled over into longer term money if interest rates fall. Thus the gearing rises to about 50 per cent of equity, while last year Rowntree was generating cash.

There will be no dilution of earnings, and indeed, the view is that this will add about 1/2p to earnings per share this year.

The snack and confectionery market in the US is highly competitive and Rowntree believes that by buying a company that serves the independents and vending groups rather than supermarkets it will continue to be in a relatively high margin backwater.

To critics who query the company's ability to take on a subsidiary in the United States, where it has no management experience, Rowntree says that Tom's has had a lot of autonomy, even though it has been a subsidiary.

Rowntree maintains it is paying about 16 times earnings which is par for the course for US acquisitions in its sector, and that a Tom's will cover interest costs this year.

United States acquisitions are fashionable in the City, and the Rowntree share price, up at 250p, is already benefiting.

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Japanese put the accent on learning

Japanese businessmen living in Wales have been surprised to find their children are speaking with Welsh accents.

Others are even more alarmed that their youngsters are starting to speak Welsh, and now company executives are appealing for Japanese teachers for their children.

The problem is highlighted by the first survey of Japanese companies in Britain.

Another put-off for Japanese investment is the lack of Japanese food in Scotland, Wales and other development areas.

One Japanese restaurant outside London in Milton Keynes, was set up after the new town's development corporation appealed for help. But on the whole, says the survey by European Company Services, the Japanese are happy in Britain and with the British.

Production is higher than expected and labour relations are still going through a honeymoon atmosphere.

The survey was sponsored by the Department of Industry and the Japan External Trade Organisation.

Mr George Murray, ECS director, said yesterday: "The biggest concentration of Japanese companies is in the Cardiff area."

A Community atmosphere is beginning to form there and the Japanese seem to have an affinity with the Welsh.

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

International Year to 31.12.82
Year to 31.12.82
Year to 31.12.82
Year to 31.12.82

Table with multiple columns: LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, SOYABEAN MEAL, COFFEE, SUGAR, WOLLEN, etc. Includes prices and market data.

Large table titled 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' listing various financial instruments, their values, and other details.



Standard Chartered



BANK PLC

Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

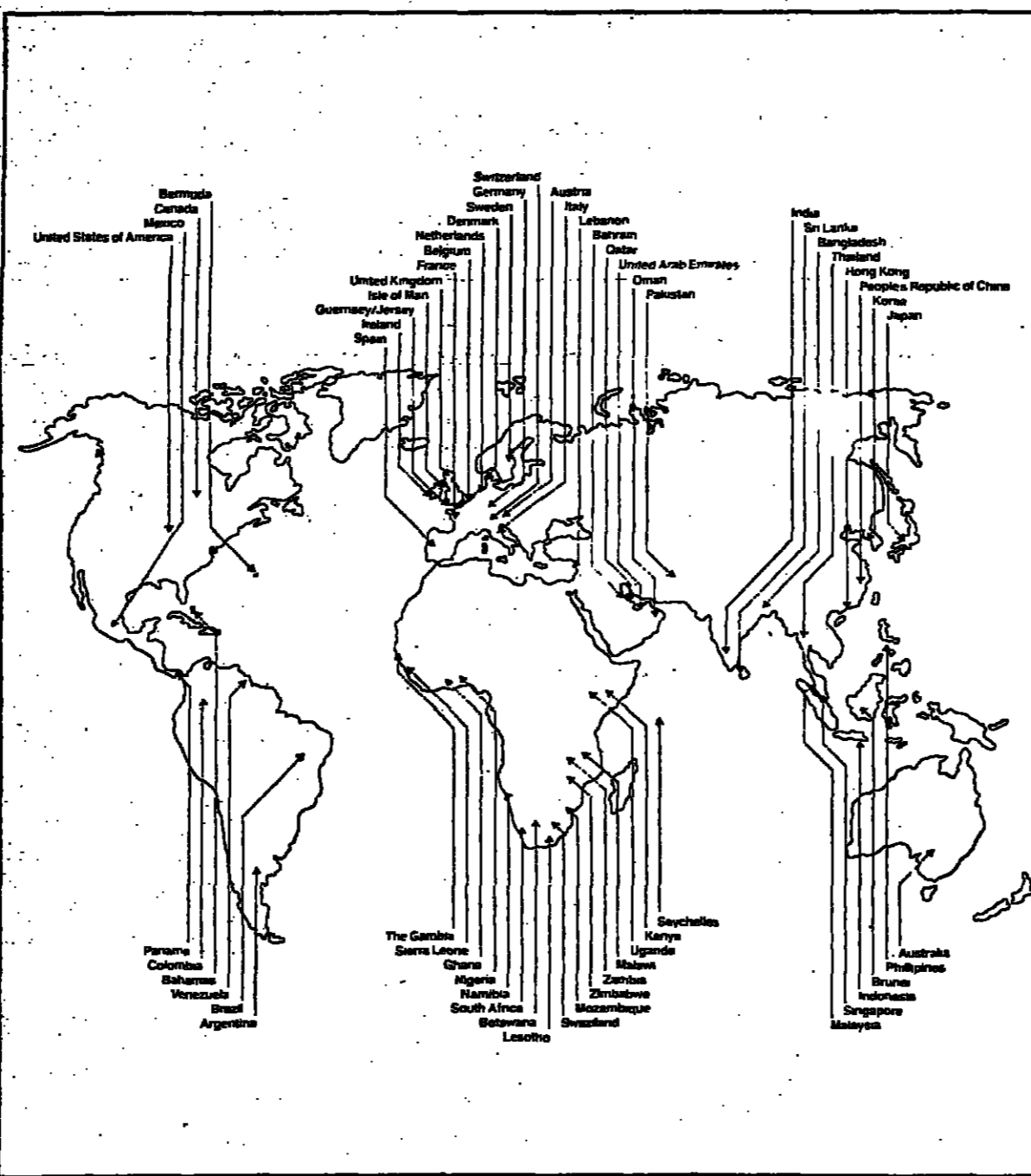
Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December, 1982, amounted to £242 million, compared with £260 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £114 million or 88 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 27 pence per share.

A modest improvement was achieved in our operating performance around the world in spite of the recession but this was more than offset by the large increase in provisions against doubtful loans.

1982 was a year of difficult trading conditions for commercial banking and consumer finance in most of our principal markets. The worldwide network of foreign exchange and treasury centres achieved very satisfactory results. The slowdown in the South African economy affected our subsidiary there, but the improved prospects in the closing months led to a better outturn than had earlier been anticipated. Union Bank produced creditable results in the difficult Californian market. In the Far East, the tougher trading climate in Hong Kong was exacerbated by some concern about the future of the territory.

In the early part of the year a worldwide cost reduction programme was instituted, the benefits from which will be realised in the current year, as well as instilling a generally more alert attitude to cost factors. For a bank such as ours the importance of keeping

**Shareholders' Funds now
£1,141 million**
**Capital Resources now
£1,632 million**
**Total Assets now
£24,307 million**



**1,900 offices in over 60 countries
around the world.**

abreast of the latest developments in information technology is obvious, and we are engaged in a major exercise to improve the Bank's systems.

With such wide geographical coverage there are inevitably

changes from year to year in our representational structure. In addition to an increased presence in China, there were other significant changes referred to in my fuller Statement with the Report and Accounts.

In particular, in the United States we have formed an integrated management group to make the most effective use of the presence which the Group already has in seven major States.

Our merchant banking interests now cover ten countries. Last year we took a significant further step by agreeing to acquire MAIBL, the first of the London consortium banks, which will merge with Standard Chartered Merchant Bank.

The problems of international debt servicing for the banking system have seldom been out of the headlines during the past year. It can readily be seen now that several countries had allowed too high a proportion of their public debt to be borrowed abroad and that the prolonged recession and continued high interest rates have created a difficult situation. It will take time for a better balance to evolve, and banks with a continuing interest in the long-term health of the countries experiencing difficulties must play a responsible and co-operating role in easing the adjustment.

For Standard Chartered our concern is both with the internal health of the countries in which we operate commercial banking businesses, and with the safety of our international lending. Other than trade finance, international lending has never been a dominant feature of our operations. We have, however, a well spread portfolio of sovereign type lending, the major part of which is to countries where we have an established banking presence.

Direct banking, worldwide

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Architecture and design

Drawing to a deadline

When Hulme Chadwick & Partners won a contract from London Transport to refurbish Chancery Lane and St Paul's Underground stations...

Chadwick, far from losing heart, set up a computer draughting bureau for other architects and designers...

Three years later, Chadwick is recognized as an expert on the application of computers in draughting and design...

The Hulme Chadwick practice, founded by Andrew Chadwick's father, seems to thrive on the unusual. Now specializing in refurbishing old buildings...

In the beer cellar, barrels have given way to automatic draughting tables which sketch out an elevation or an architectural detail at the touch of a button...

"It's a question of applying your knowledge and making computers do what you want," he says. "To me, the computer is a piano and we are the pianists..."

Although the computer is only a tool, it is a very powerful one, and Chadwick has shown that its contribution to architecture and design can be invaluable...

"The information you produce can also be transmitted in a completely different way. You can carry it around in the form of magnetic tape..."

Graphic and non-graphic data can be combined in the same process, surveys can provide information in the form



Andrew Chadwick (centre) with colleagues Mr E. Lowinger (left) and Mr R. Watkins outside the deceptive "pub"

of a tape instead of a drawing, and the same basic data can be used to draw to different scales...

"You can do a fairly large drawing job in a quarter of the time and at half the cost, and you can use the time you've saved for better supervision of the work..."

There are also large benefits if an architect or client has a change of heart. The ramifications of changing a specification are little understood outside the profession...

Admirers of Municipal Gothic and Bankers' Georgian may fear that the computer will condemn us to a future of

matchbox regularity. Not so, says Chadwick. "You work with shapes in relation to one another. Every building, even the most Gaudi-esque extravaganza, is a collection of components, and working with those components doesn't make for boredom..."

The computer provides so much information that it places a burden on the designer to make choices. It leads away from conformity towards non-conformity.

Although Andrew Chadwick has been one of the pioneers in applying computers to architectural and interior design, the profession as a whole has not been indifferent. In Britain, interest is intense. Chadwick

who is chairman of the Computer Group of the Royal Institute of British Architects estimates that well over a third of firms have some sort of computer to do part of their work, although this may not be designing.

"I think that a higher proportion of architectural practices in this country have computer graphics than any other national profession in the world," Calcomp, the US company which supplied the equipment, has paid to send Chadwick around the world to lecture others on how to use it.

They flew to Houston, Texas, to tell American architects how to use American equipment," says Chadwick.

Roger Woolnough

Teething troubles with the Drive

Customers of Clive Sinclair who bought his Spectrum machine when it was launched a year ago have been frustrated at the wait for his long-promised and revolutionary Micro Drive...

Now, however, the company expects to start selling the Drive within the next few weeks. To keep faith with the original mail-order customers, it will be sold initially by mail...

When it does finally arrive, it will offer a storage capacity of more than 100K, and sell at about £40, plus £30 for the computer interface.

Sharp, the Japanese electronics giant, is to launch a micro aimed at the home user, the MZ700, this summer. The machine will offer 64K ram, colour, sound, and graphics...

Computers, makers of the Lynx computer, have just concluded a financial deal which will inject more cash into the company. They are now taking on more design and development staff at their Cambridge factory...

If you are a happy family motorist, then I advise you not to buy one of the latest home application programs from the Reading-based software house Audiogenic.

One of its six domestic programs for the VIC20 is called Car Costs, and after questioning the driver, it will analyse the expense of car ownership, displaying the costs diagrammatically...

Geoffrey Ellis

People/Philip Rule of Safe Computing



Philip Rule has been involved in computing for so long that he goes back to the days when programming was not a full-time job. He graduated as a mathematician, and English Electric took him on in 1957 because mathematicians were thought to be the only people capable of programming computers...

Things have changed a lot since then. One of the software packages sold by the company which Rule runs today, Safe Computing, is a production control system which runs on a microcomputer. The potential market is huge.

There are 15,000 companies in the UK alone with 250 employees or less who could make profitable use of it, he says.

Philip Rule stayed with English Electric for about three years then became involved with operational research in the electricity supply industry. Manufacturing attracted him next, and by the mid-sixties he was writing production control programs. This was to prove an enduring interest.

Safe Computing is based in the Midlands where Rule has lived since 1968. He has grown deep roots there. His home is in Lichfield, and he was Liberal candidate for Lichfield and Tamworth in the 1974 and 1979 general elections.

He struck out on his own after a spell with Delta Metals. "I had a nice job there," he recalls. "I don't know why I ever left it."

burtau business, and Safe has discontinued its interests in that area. Ownership of the company has also been restructured, and Chubb disposed of its shareholding last year.

Meanwhile, Rule has taken the company into new activities. His interest in manufacturing industry led to the acquisition of the computer department of PERA, the Production Engineering Research Association, giving Safe Computing a flourishing business in production control work.

One result was a software package called SafeS, a production control system which runs on ICL machines. It will generate £1m of Safe Computing's income this year.

Next came MicroSafeS, a version of microcomputers. It serves a very big, largely untapped market," Philip Rule says.

Response to MicroSafeS has been high, though sales have been slow so far. "We are at the exciting time when we will see whether it's really going to take off," Rule says.

He thinks that it could be generating as much revenue in a year or so as the larger SafeS package adding £1m or more to each year's turnover. "But it could go astronomically beyond that," he adds. "We have literally hundreds and hundreds of prospects."

R.W.

Braille production

How the blind can keep informed

One of the social benefits of microchips and microcomputers is that they can greatly improve the lives of the blind and poor sighted. Voice synthesiser devices, for example, can enable a blind person to become a typist...

Since then, White has monitored developments in aids for the blind in Britain and abroad, and carried out development work himself. SAGEM subsequently assigned the patents, design and manufacturing rights of the Digicassette to an American company, Trimation Inc in Florida, with whom White has a close working relationship.

Trimation redesigned and enhanced the device mechanically and electronically, and recently relunched it as the MicroBraille. A compact desktop device weighing only 8lb, it provides a blind person with a high speed equivalent of a standard office word-processing machine.

The MicroBraille can function as an electronic typewriter, a portable computer terminal, an audio recorder, a data processor, or simply as a notebook. It enables text to be prepared in Braille and automatically converted into normal text. It also converts normal text into Braille without the operator needing to know Braille.

White started his interest in aids for the blind, and he took out a licence to market the French company's latest product at that time, a portable electronic Braille producing unit called the Digicassette, which enables a blind person to take notes, produce copy, and store it on a tape cassette.

White took the Digicassette to an exhibition at the Edinburgh Royal Blind Asylum and School where a dramatic incident brought home to him the need for an office system for the blind.

At the exhibition was a downcast girl who was leaving school and badly wanted to work in an office, but could not because of her handicap. When told about the Digicassette, her face lit up. She realised that it would help her achieve her ambition, and become employable on the same terms as a sighted person.

"This incident showed me the gap in the market that Erleybridge could fill," he recalls. "I could see that the progress of the electronic office could bring with it a danger to the visually-handicapped members of our society. Their

employment prospects depend, like everyone else's, on being able to compete successfully in the new high technology environment."

White has also provided a "talking" VDU, an embosser and a special Braille translation program. Braille output is generated by a high speed embosser which produces a standard Braille page in 7 seconds, or a slower device that produces a page a minute. The system can produce output in five standard or contracted Braille languages: English, American, Hindi, Arabic and Spanish, French and German are being developed.

The new two systems, which cost around £5,500 each, have been tested and welcomed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind. "Any device which helps blind people to get jobs, or people who suddenly lose their sight to maintain their jobs, is welcome, and this equipment is particularly good," a spokesman said.

He plans to enhance the new systems further. Now under development are packages which will enable visually handicapped people to produce error-free letters and documents.

Frank Brown

Only man (or woman) can think

From P. T. Hobson, The Pound, Cleve St Margaret, Craven Arms, Shropshire. The illustration to Philip Manchester's article (Computer Horizons March 22) implies a question with which the article itself does not deal, but which is of fundamental importance to the future development of the human race. This question is by no means new, and was discussed in correspondence in The Times in 1949. This followed publication by you of

an interview with the late A. M. Turing, mathematician and computer scientist (June 11, 1949) in which he was asked for his views on the Lister Oration of that year given by G. Jefferson to the British Medical Association.

The "Electronic Digital Processing Computer" had recently become a matter of importance to commerce, and the Oration dealt with the question, "Can a Machine Think?" Though the brain/mind

dichotomy has been a subject of absorbing interest to philosophers from time immemorial, Descartes is generally regarded as being the father of modern development of the subject, and his famous dictum "I think, therefore I am", while denied by the determinists and reductionists and immortalized by Ryle as implying a "ghost in the machine", is not entirely rejected by many modern scientific thinkers. British academic philosophers, however, have been singularly quiet concerning the effect of modern technological developments on this important question.

Words which have been used for centuries both by ordinary people and philosophers to describe attributes of the human mind are used to describe the observed performance of computers and their associated programs without hesitation: memory, knowledge, belief, intelligence, thought and thinking, perception, cognition, are used without any attempt at a limiting definition.

This use of the adjective "imitating" is of crucial importance, because it has now been amply demonstrated that the purely logical part of these various mental capacities can be readily duplicated by machines, at speeds far in excess of human abilities. But each of these attributes involves more than purely logical processes; all involve self-awareness in one form or another, and it is significant that words such as emotion, desire, volition and feeling are not included in the literature of artificial intelligence.

Psychologists now accept that much of this logical processing undoubtedly proceeds below the level of conscious awareness, but the human mind is capable of focusing attention at will on much of this activity, and "I know that I am thinking". Does a computer, composed as it is of inanimate "chips", as distinct from the living tissue of the brain, know what it is doing?

Unfortunately, present and future generations will have been educated to believe that the answer to this fundamental question is "Yes". Already many decisions are being made on the basis of information ejected from a computing system, and one may ask, where

does the responsibility lie? If a bridge is found to be of faulty design, can the computer be put in the witness box during the subsequent public inquiry? Thanks to the speed at which these systems operate, events now take place so rapidly that it is no longer fanciful to say that the decision to "press the button" will not be taken by the Reagans or Andropovs of the day, but by a machine.

Jefferson was right: "Not until a machine can write a sonnet or compose a concerto because of thoughts and emotions felt, and not by the chance fall of symbols, could we agree that machine equals brain - that is, not only write it, but know that it had done it. No mechanism could feel (and not merely artificially signal, an easy contrivance) pleasure at its success, grief when its valves fuse... be charmed by sex, be angry or depressed when it cannot get what it wants."

From Hilary Reed, Reeds, The Suter Road, Farnham. Looming large on your Computer Horizons (March 1) was an article which demonstrates that some experts in high tech - Mr Molyneux, "head of information technology unit of the Industrial Society" no less - have yet to emerge from the caves. The whole article, which "pinpoints the importance of the man at the sharp end", as well as its cartoon illustration, carefully avoids any reference to the contribution of many women who work at every level in information technology.

Yet again arrogant assumptions are to be read in your newspaper that important roles belong only to men. And this written by an "authority" whose title would be, accurately, "head of information technology". Please be a little more careful to choose contributors who are aware of the whole of the human race, not half.

ABSOLUTE COMPUTING FOR BRITISH BUSINESS. ABS Computers, Multibus House, Station Approach, Woking, Surrey (04862) 70516.

A&B COMPUTING FOR THE USER OF THE BBC MICRO. Over 100 pages of features, programs, news and reviews to help you get more from your BBC Micro! Reviews, we spotlight BBC software. Cells and Serpents, an exciting epic adventure, to key in. Programs, amazing new games and utilities for you to run. OUT THIS FRIDAY!

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MARKETING/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SOFTWARE SERVICES. to £25,000 tax free - Saudi Arabia. A leading Saudi Arabian software house based in Jeddah wish to recruit a Senior Representative to exploit the enormous business potential within the kingdom...

مكتبة من رصاص

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

THE TIMES 1000

The World's Top Companies... The 1000 UK companies with all statistical details...

Just like the weather, the stock market was in a contrary mood yesterday and after coming within a whisker of 700, faded to end lower on the day.

The FT index, which has jumped more than 40 points since Easter, closed 0.5 down at 695.0, having been 2.9 up at 10 am.

However, the undertone remained strong supported by a late burst of buying support from New York where the Dow Jones Industrial average resumed its record run after the weekend break.

Blue chips were again in demand with BOC Group 2p up on the day at 216p along with Fisons 5p to 210p. ICI reduced an earlier fall to end only 2p down at 434p. Glaxo also retained a strong following ending 1/2p up at 173 1/2.

The strength of the market was reflected by brokers Rowe & Pitman's ability to place 9.1 million shares in Rio Tinto Zinc, the mining finance group, without too much trouble.

The seller was Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Charter Consolidated, which sold more than 1 million shares this year for about 66m.

Yesterday's placing was executed at about 562p, valuing Charter's remaining stake at 651m. RTZ ended the day 13p lower at 594p. Charter, on the other hand, rose 12p to 265p along with its largest shareholder, Minerox, up 80p to 874p.

Index fails to pass 700

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 11. Dealings end, April 22. Contango Day, April 25. Settlement Day, May 3.

Oil shares enjoyed another firm performance helped by Sheikh Yamani's latest optimistic comments on oil prices and consumption. The move certainly caught out the jobbers, who were already suffering from stock shortages. US support was noted in BP 16p higher at 388p while improvements were also seen in Shell, 4p up at 510p.

Dealers are pinning their hopes on a late run - possibly to 90p - for shares of ICL, Britain's biggest manufacturer of computers, ahead of the figures. The market is looking for profits of 220m against a loss of 131m. The shares rose 1p lighter at 750p yesterday, after 8 1/2.

Glits recovered from a nervous start to produce gains of up to 1/2p, partly reflecting the pound's latest surge on the foreign exchange markets, where it ended 1.2 cents higher at \$1.5615. Dealers appear to have discounted the latest half-point cut in interest charges and feel that the next one may still be some way off.

USM, were shares of L. D. & S. Rivins, the textiles group, whose fall listing was suspended in 1978, when the recoverers were called in. Yesterday the shares were re-quoted in their new form at 35p compared with a suspension price of 18p and valuing the company at 1.4m.

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Electro-Predecessors lost 1p to 246p after disappointing figures and reorganization news. Profits last year rose from \$3.4m to \$5.8m (£3.7m), but were below market expectations after exceptional items of \$1.2m.

One of the biggest movers on the day was Security Centres, which returned from a brief suspension 18p higher at 550p. The suspension came after details of the group's latest US security acquisition, Jewellers Protection, in January, the shares stood at 280p after news of a 25m rights issue and acquisition of National Guardsman security in New York.

The possibility of burnt fingers failed to deter investors in Bellair Cosmetics, which ended the day 9p higher at 65p, despite a circular from the company giving a warning that talks on a bid for the company were well below the current share price. The group's biggest shareholder, Fenton Hill, is trying to sell its stake. Market followers believe that a reverse takeover is being planned.

After the recent rights issue at Goshawk Past the French group Compagnie de l'Occident pour la France et l'Industrie has taken a stake of 10.5 million shares, or 7.85 per cent of the equity. Lord Kissin's stake accounts for 13.46 per cent of the shares.

BRITISH FUNDS

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table with columns: Market rates (day's rates), Market rates (today), New York, Montreal, Brussels, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Oslo, Paris, Stockholm, Vienna, Zurich

Money Market Rates

Table with columns: Clearing Bank Base Rate 10%, Discount Rates, Treasury Bills (90 days), Prime Bank Bills (90 days) Trades (10%), Local Authority Bonds

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Euro-Deposits

Table with columns: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months

Gold

Table with columns: Gold (spot), Gold (1000 oz), Gold (1000 oz)

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TENNIS: MUDDLED THINKING BY ATP

Two iniquitous payments that must not be mistaken for prize money

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Remember the old British Hard Court Championships? Borne mouth is not like that any more. The State Express Classic which begins today is for men only. The women, 64 of them, are competing for less than £1,700 in a separate tournament at West Worthing. By contrast, 16 men are competing for more than £48,000 in an over-35 side-show at Bournemouth.

Well, perhaps more than a side-show. What a joy it should be (temporarily) for a little sadness at the toll the years have taken) to have another look at players who have given us so much pleasure. Among them, will be six men who won Wimbledon championships in singles or doubles or both: Roy Emerson, Manuel Santana, Rod Laver, Fred Stolle, Bob Hewitt, and Owen Davidson. For some reason, they forgot to invite Frew McMillan.

The seedings say that in the main event, the grand prix tournament, the last eight will be: Jose Higueras v Jaime Filiol, Manuel Orantes v Balazs Taroczy, Victor Pecci v Shlomo Glickstein and Christopher Mottram v Tomas Smid. Interesting first round matches include Glickstein v Claudio Panatta, Mottram v Angel Gimenez (runner-up last year), Pat Cash v Thierry Tulasne (both teenagers) and Jim Brown, aged 17 v Filiol, aged 36.

The prize money is £73,964. In addition the tournament must pay £10,417 into the grand prix bonus pool and £4,734 to the Association of Tennis Professionals. It has become the practice to use official but misleading grand prix language in lumping the three sums together and calling them "prize money". The ATP, in their own newspaper, went so far as to state that "men and women competing at Wimbledon will receive £978,211". That is not true. The only defence for such muddled thinking, is that it represents grand prix policy. The prize money at Wimbledon will be £904,246. The figure of £978,211 is made up by the addition of £59,172 paid to the bonus pool and £14,793 paid to the ATP.

All grand prix tournaments contribute to the bonus pool and also, this year, to the ATP. It is difficult to justify either payment and inaccurate to claim that they form part of a particular tournament's prize money. They would do so only if both sums were added to the money which tournaments pay directly to the players.

The year-end bonuses reward the more successful players for their commitment to the grand prix circuit. Thus are the leading men paid twice for their services. Moreover, it is reasonable that, by contributing to the bonus pool, tournaments increase the earnings of players who may seldom, if ever, support their events. There are fast court specialists, for example, who do not compete in the French championships, and clay-court specialists who do not compete at Wimbledon. Why should Wimbledon and Wimbledon, to take only two examples, pay players who do not support their championships?

The payment to the ATP is new



Ivan Lendl, who on Sunday night beat Guillermo Vilas 6-2, 6-2, 6-0, to win the WCT spring final at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Lendl, the top seed, collected \$125,000 (some £75,000) for his easy victory over the second seeded Argentine. Lendl, aged 23, never trailed in the match, building a 5-1 lead in the first and second sets, then coasting through the third in 23 minutes.

The Czechoslovak broke Vilas service nine times out of 11 and was forced to deuce only once during his own service in a game which Vilas, aged 30, eventually won 6-2, 6-2, 6-0.

Lendl said his win could give him a psychological advantage. "It means if we meet again in the French Open, I'll know what to expect and what to do," he said. "It's always nice to go into a match knowing you won the last one."

and has unpleasant implications. Its purpose, similar to the bonus system, is to harness the players' union" in to help with the grand prize. In January of last year the ATP announced that they were withdrawing their representatives from the governing council of the grand prize, in order to assume an independent role between the grand prize circuit, the World Championship Tennis circuit, and a variety of one-off promotions. That decision made sense and it was what most ATP members wanted - and still want. But the bugle-call announcing the ATP's advance to a brave new world of impartial integrity was still hanging in the air.

The other is run by WCT, who are currently using the MPTC, the ATP, and the ITF. Briefly, the complaint alleges that the defendants are conspiring to monopolise men's professional tennis and in doing so have violated United States anti-trust laws. Without going into the charges or the respective merits of the two circuits and their supporters, it is to sympathise with WCT in their frustration. They put men's professional tennis on its feet, made a tactical error by joining the grand prize, and on restoring their independence discovered that the entrances to a supposedly free market were obstructed.

The acrimony between WCT and the Establishment has been going on for 15 years and there will be no end to it until the game has an independent governing body. Conceivably, this could consist of the ATP, representing the players, and the ITF (the national associations). But they would first have to decide that they want to govern men's professional tennis - rather than a single circuit of tournaments, which is what they do now.

The withdrawal from direct involvement in tournament promotion would present short-term problems but long-term benefits. A governing body running its own circuit could be neither trusted nor tolerated. Its neutrality would always be suspect. If independent, on the other hand, it could be universally respected and lay down basic rules and standards - much like those of the grand prize and WCT circuits, but more flexible than either - to be honoured by organisers and competitors at all events (including one-off promotions) seeking official status. Meaning, let us have a little more common sense in discussing what is prize money and what is not.

Bournemouth qualifying results, page 23

Teenager gives Mrs Lloyd a scare

Amelia Island, Florida (Reuter) - world No 2 appeared to have the trachea seized up when she won the opening set and jumped in to a 2-0 lead in the second. Then Miss Basset, the youngest player on the women's tennis tour, stunned Mrs Lloyd by winning the next eight games.

Mrs Lloyd's perfect record on Florida clay was clearly in danger as Miss Basset led 4-3 in the decisive set and was serving with a 30-0 lead, but the Canadian committed three unforced errors over the next four points to yield a critical service break.

GOLF: TWO BRANDS WITH AN EQUAL SHARE OF THE MARKET

X plus Y equals confusion

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent, Port of Kautau



The game of the name: old-style Brand Y (left) and new-look Brand X

The battle of the Brands, which promised to be something of a sideshow during the Tunisian Open championship, the first event of the European professional season, developed into something significantly more important. Both Gordon Brands shared the second place prize with Tom Slickmann, of the United States.

If it could, morning-after analysis, the elder Brand, the one from Yorkshire (and Brand X for brevity here), did more than enough to banish the nightmare of 1982. He came again on Sunday with two telling birdies to claim a generous share of the booty, £4,473, when he seemed to have faded into the pack.

The confusion was caused by two players having the same name has already led to the publication of the wrong man's photograph, in *The Times* as elsewhere. Further, the youngest Brand, a Scot living in the West Country (Brand Y) removed his distinguishing moustache. But Brand X, mercifully, has taken to wearing spectacles.

The fascinating aspect of this comparison is that when Brand Y burst spectacularly on the scene last year with two tournament victories in his first season, Brand X suffered a catastrophic decline. He dropped to 61st position in the order of merit

and thus lost his automatic exemption in this year's event by one place (and £5,60).

The success of the younger man was widely believed to have had a psychological effect on his senior, but from the depths of despair, Brand X took himself off to Africa for rehabilitation and succeeded to win a newly-born baby with £22,000 prize money and his exempt status restored.

How, now, would he stand up to the presence of Brand Y on the first occasion of their meeting? By a quirk of fate, helped along by Brand X's restorative 69 in the third round, the two played together on the last day. Honour was served by two rounds of 71. In one tournament Brand X has earned more than half the money he had acquired in 24 last year. The baby seems well provided for.

The tournament was otherwise notable for the recovery of Bernhard Langer, sixth in Europe last year and first in 1981. After a first round in 71, five-over par, he just survived the humiliation (for him) of the 36-hole cut with a second round of 73. A 69 on the third day pointed to a solution of his putting problems, but he was not to be so lucky. He managed to chip in three times, as he did on Saturday.

In his way, a steady 73 in difficult conditions of severe wind on Sunday was more of a pointer to the way ahead. By then he had discarded the several cut-down putters he had brought with him and reverted to one of conventional shaft. Neither he nor anyone is likely to have been impressed by the newest gimmick employed by Slickmann, the reverse-slofted putter with the de Gaulle profile.

Zoeller makes most of shortcoming

After winning his first title for two years, the Heritage Classic, Fuzzy Zoeller discussed the matter dearest to the heart of every golfer: how do you hit a longer ball from the tee. "It's just a gift," Zoeller replied. He is not quite so phenomenally long as he was when he won the Masters in 1979 but who is still able to "let it out a long way". "Strong legs and quick hands are important, comes to think of it," Zoeller added.

My drive hit a branch. I still had only 78 yards to the pin but I skinned it and I went into a bunker. I got a funny looking shot from the sand out to 10 feet and holed for par. At the 10th I hit an eight iron to 12 feet and holed. But the first time I really felt I had won was when I hit my short 17th," he confessed.

Nelford held on to second place while O'Grady, who tied with Eastwood for third, won by far his biggest prize to date, \$20,300 (£13,037). By general vote he was the "new star" of the week. Zoeller, 67, 72, 68, 71, 27; J. Nelford (Canada), 68, 69, 70, 71, 29; M. O'Grady, 70, 69, 71, 72, 28; G. Eastwood, 70, 69, 72, 71, 27; J. S. Trevisi, 68, 72, 72, 71; A. Bean, 69, 71, 72, 68; S. Crawshaw, 75, 68, 69, 74; F. Couples, 75, 68, 69, 74.

Legal Appointments also on page 26

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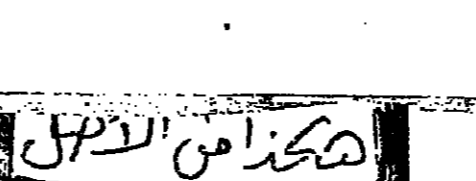
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12.00 Cuckoo! Bell Bay. A repeat of the programme shown at noon...

BBC 2

- 6.05 Open University: Modern Art.
11.00 Play School.
1.00 World Spooker. Coverage of the fourth day of the Embassy World Professional Championship...

CHANNEL 4

- 5.00 A Full Life. In the second of her interviews with people who are leading a long and fruitful life...
7.00 Comment. On the soap-box this evening is Hal Noggin...

CHOICE

documentary illustrates an unacceptable facet of a noble profession.
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- 6.30 Weather.
7.00 News.
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Radio 4

- 6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day...

Radio 5

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7.00 News.
7.30 Morning Concert (F) Beethoven, Rameau, Kodaly, Hindy, records.

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- 6.30 Adrian John with The Early Show.
7.00 Steve Wright.
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THEATRES

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ENTERTAINMENTS

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Refugee accused of seedy past

By George Clark

Prospects for Mr Siancu Papsosiu, the deported Romanian, ever being allowed back into Britain now seem slim...

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State, Home Office, said yesterday: "It now appears that he was convicted of rape when he was in Romania."

He said it was one thing to consider the admission of a refugee when there were compassionate circumstances...

Mr Waddington said that when he was deported back to Romania, Mr Papsosiu had claimed that he had been tortured and beaten by prison officers in England...

Manila fires

Manila (AFP) - About 1,500 people were left homeless after two separate fires in a Muslim neighbourhood in central Manila...



Princess gets nose-rub welcome from Maoris

The Princess of Wales received a nose-rubbing from Sussan Piper, aged 16, at a walk about in an Auckland park yesterday. It is a traditional form of Maori welcome.

Police are on full alert for protests by the Maoris, who want compensation for land acquired during the reign of Queen Victoria.

The Princess scored only five out of 10, according to another Maori girl, writes Granfa Forbes of the Press Association.

Princess Charles, was also slightly apprehensive about the nose-rubbing ceremony. He told Sussan Piper: "Please don't rub my nose too hard."

Lead-free petrol by 1990

Continued from page 1. lowed from food or even the glazing on plates. Professor Southwood said that necessary EEC action was necessary otherwise Continental lead pollution might "wait across the Channel".

The introduction of unleaded petrol is likely to add one or two pence to the cost of a gallon of petrol.

Channel 4 may face call for shutdown

Independent television companies may ask for Channel 4 to be shut down until the dispute over payments for actors' appearing in commercials on the network has been settled.

Neither side has made any moves aimed at ending the dispute since January, and therefore the ITV companies want Channel 4 to be closed until a settlement is found.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Acts of an apostle for Third World

Yesterday the House debated the plight of the Third World. As always when that subject is under discussion in the Chamber, the speech which aroused the most interest among members was that of Mr Edward Heath - or Major Reflation, to give him his military rank.

The house was ill-attended until he rose to contribute. Those members who were present from the start seemed to be agreed that the subject was exceptionally serious and important. That could explain the low attendance.

A combination of the subject, the fact that it was a Monday, and the absence of any division votes requiring MPs to be present, meant that it is going to be about the Government.

Very soon it became smaller still, for Mr Heath decided to be relatively restrained on the subject of the Government. But he was slightly rude at the start of his speech. He said Mr Denis Healey, the chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, had been "unfair" to Mr Pym, the Foreign Secretary, by saying that Mr Pym had not put forward any definite proposals for fear of being sent to the House of Lords.

He bared his teeth and heaved his shoulders, the pose that first got him into the cartoons and into Mr Yarwood's act all those years ago. He then subsided, and started to talk studiously about places called Chad and Mali - places which, to the average MP, sound like the side dishes you order to go with main courses in Indian restaurants.

Mr Heath remained being rude about the Government, but only in the context of being rude about all the Western Governments for not doing enough to help the Third World. This rather spoils the fun, from the point of view of casual passers-by among MPs, so it was no wonder they fled the Chamber

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

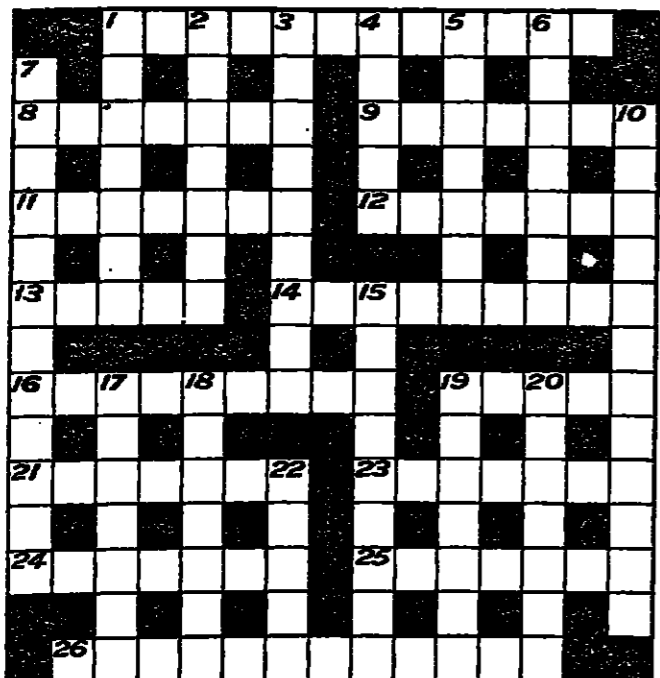
Today's events

Royal engagements: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh inspect the Queen's Company of the First Battalion Grenadier Guards, Windsor Castle, 12.

Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Elizabeth Curtis Centre for Disabled Riders, Bromham Hospital, Bromham, Bedfordshire, 10.45; as Chancellor of London University, opens new galleries of the Percival David Foundation, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, London, 2.30; attends a charity evening of greyhound racing in aid of the Leukaemia Research Fund, White City, London, 7.15.

Workshops, Halewood, 2.10; as President of the NSPCC, attends centenary annual general meeting of the Liverpool Branch, Liverpool Town Hall, 3.50; attends reception at Liverpool Town Hall given by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, 6.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,107



- ACROSS: 1 Jack's obstacle race? (12). 2 Batmen taking caps off? (7). 3 Noisy bunch end in quarrels? (7). 4 A target destroyed at Henley? (7). 5 He gave Tom his field of vision (3-4). 6 Corsets used to be put on in bed (5). 7 You may burn your fingers with this tacky business (3,6). 8 Unusually grim, a part of this rambling recital (9). 9 Middle American hasn't a cent to get in (5). 10 Marine-built sort of revolutionary conveyance for the well-born (7). 11 Remove corruption but make a bomb (5,2). 12 One who leaves a course unfinished (4-3). 13 Inquire into what used to be a pit (7). 14 Perhaps a privilege to support the standing order? (6,6).

- DOWN: 1 Foot Nugent's made to take a magazine (4,3). 2 Pressed the button and became an outcast? (7). 3 A nut gives his optic a squint (9).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 11

New exhibition: Paper as Image, Bangor Art Gallery, Flord Gwynedd, Bangor; Tue to Sat 12 to 5, closed Sun & Mon (from today until May 21).

Music: Concert by Modern Jazz Quartet, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

Parliament today: Commons (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on East Anglia and on shipbuilding and ship repairing industries.

Anniversaries: Christian Ehrenberg, biologist, was born at Delitzsch, Germany, 1795. Deaths: Paolo Veronese (Cagliari), Venice, 1588; Byron, Missolonghi, Greece, 1824; Benjamin Disraeli, First Earl of Beaconsfield, Prime Minister, 1868, 1874-80, London, 1881; Charles Darwin, Downe, Kent, 1882; Pierre Curie, Paris, 1906.

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending April 10: 1 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 10.30m. 2 This is Your Life, Thames, 14.30m. 3 3-2-1 Yorkshire, 14.30m. 4 Coronation Street (Mon) Granada, 10.30m. 5 Family Fortunes, Central, 13.30m. 6 Crookeside (Wed) Central, 13.25m. 7 The News (Thurs) Central, 13.25m. 8 T J Hooker, ITV, 13.00m. 9 Only When I Laugh, Yorkshire, 12.55m. 10 Carry On Laughing, Thames, 12.55m.

- Channel 4: 1 The Grand National, 12.55m. 2 The Uninvited, 2.55m. 3 On the Riviera, 2.55m. 4 Crookeside (Wed) 2.15m. 5 Summer Madness, 2.10m. 6 Chasers, 2.05m. 7 The News (Thurs) 1.55m. 8 American Bandstand's 30th Anniversary Special, 1.55m. 9 Summer Stock, 1.60m. 10 Whiskyr Gators, 3.30m.

National Day: The west African state of Sierra Leone celebrates its National Day today. The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of a republican constitution in 1971.

The pound: Bank of England 1.77. Bank of Australia 2.75. Bank of Austria Sch 78.50. Bank of Belgium Fr 74.50. Bank of Canada S 1.95. Bank of Denmark Kr 13.98. Bank of Finland Mkk 8.90. Bank of France Fr 11.73. Bank of Germany DM 3.93. Bank of Greece Dr 160.00. Bank of Hong Kong S 10.83. Bank of Italy Lira 2395.00. Bank of Japan Yen 388.00. Bank of Netherlands Gld 4.41. Bank of Norway Nkr 11.36. Bank of Portugal Esc 207.00. Bank of South Africa Rd 1.97. Bank of Spain Pta 163.00. Bank of Sweden Kr 12.02. Bank of Switzerland Fr 3.30. Bank of Yugoslavia Dnr 130.00.

Roads

London and South-east: Scrubs Lane, N Kensington: Roadworks. Kingston town centre: Width restriction at Wood Street. A501: City Road, Kingston: Water main repairs, northbound traffic directed M25: Lane closures between junctions 3 and 4 (Bagshot to Frimley, Surrey). Midlands and East Angles: M1: All traffic sharing southbound exit at junction 16 (Rotherham) via service area, (Northants). A1: Lane closures near Alconbury, Cambridgeshire. North: M62: Lane closures between junctions 22 (Bradford/Hull) and 26 (Ripponden), N Yorks. A1: Lane closures near Boroughbridge, N Yorks. M6: Lane closures between junctions 41 (N of Fenwick) and 42 (S of Carlisle), Cumbria. Wales and West: M5: Width restrictions between junctions 26 (Taunton) and 27 (Iwerston), M4: Four road bridges, A32: Kirkcubbin Esplanade, Fife, closed until midnight for annual links market; local diversion. A739: Clyde Tunnel expressway closed northbound; diversion.

Weather

A depression in the North Sea will move slowly N, and a cold N airstream covers the British Isles. 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S England, Midlands: Fog patches dispersing, sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers developing; wind NW, light; fresh; max temp 7C (46F). East Angles, E, central N England: Cloudy outbreaks of rain or sleet, snow on hills, becoming brighter, perhaps wintry showers; wind NW, fresh; becoming moderate; max temp 7C (46F). Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Fog patches at first, sun intervals, wintry showers; wind mainly N, light; max temp 8C (46F). N Wales, NW Scotland, Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Angl, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, wintry showers, snow on hills; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 7C (46F). Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow: Cloudy, drizzle or rain, snow on hills; becoming brighter showery intervals; wind N, strong, perhaps gale in places, backing NW, fresh; max temp 6C (43F). Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy outbreaks of rain, snow in places, spreading from S; wind NE, fresh or strong, gale in places, backing N; max temp 6C (43F). Celtic Sea, NW coast of Ireland, and Thursday: Continuing unsettled and rather cold. SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind variable, light or moderate; sea light. St George's Channel, Wind N light or moderate; sea slight. Irish Sea: Wind moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.

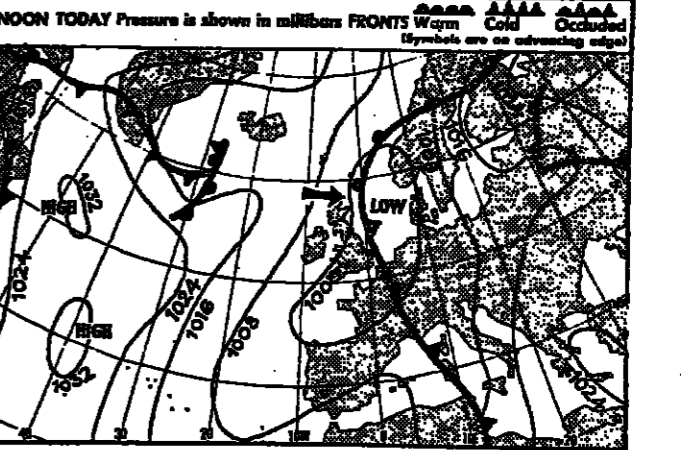


Table with columns for location, time, and tide height. Includes High tides for various locations like London Bridge, Southampton, and others.

Table titled 'Around Britain' showing weather conditions (Sun, Rain, Max, Min) for various locations like St Andrews, Scarborough, Aberdeen, etc.

Table titled 'London' showing temperature ranges and weather conditions. Includes a section for 'Highest and lowest' temperatures across different regions.

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